
Subject: Re: erasing a post?

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 27 May 2015 16:14:48 GMT

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On Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 11:08:17 AM UTC-5, Helder wrote:

> Hi,
> I just tried to "answer" a post and when I hit the "post" button I found out that the message was deleted. I find it not nice to erase a post. People might have already read it and spend time on it. If it was a mistake or if you have thought of things through and you don't want an answer anymore, simply answer you own post with a "sorry, don't need this anymore".
> [edit: I'm not pissed or anything, I'm just trying to make a point that it is not a drama to have a post out there that you don't need anymore]
>
> Anyway, if anybody *still* is interested, here is my answer to the post (unfortunately I did not copy the original message: the poster wanted to compare structures):
>
>
> Good evening,
> there are a lot of ways of tackling this. But generally with structures you have to go through element by element. You may google compare structures and find a few solutions/suggestions on the group.
> One other way of doing this (probably computationally more expensive, but slightly easier to understand) is to use hashes (<http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/HASH.html>). So for each structure you generate a hash:
> h1 = hash(myStruct1, /extract)
> h2 = hash(myStruct2, /extract)
> then you can compare with the EQ or NE operators to check which values are equal or not equal. The result is a list. Here you will find an example:
> <http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/HASH.html#Comparing>
>
> Notice that you need IDL >8.0.
>
> I hope it helps,
> Helder

The astronomy library has COMPARE_STRUCT that does this well:

http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/structure/compare_struct.pro

-Jeremy.
