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Subject: Re: Object definition

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 07 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Pavel Romashkin ([promashkin@cmdl.noaa.gov](mailto:promashkin@cmdl.noaa.gov)) writes:

> I did not realize that HELP will call definition method without me  
> creating an object instance first.

Well, assuming you have written the object definition module correctly and given it and the file the correct name. Which, since it is you, Pavel, I feel certain is the case. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say without Automatic Structure Definitions it would be impossible to implement objects as named structures, without (Heaven forbid) having to manually compile them first. :-)

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Subject: Re: Object definition

Posted by [promashkin](#) on Fri, 07 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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I guess I understand it now. Named structures are not retained after session is over. If a named structure is defined as a variable, its definition and name are gone after a session reset (or IDL quit). However, for object definitions, executing "HELP, {my\_obj}, /obj" in fact calls the object definition code "my\_obj\_\_define" and creates a blank instance of that object for HELP to use. Then, HELP returns info on blank object instance. But, for a variable that contained a named structure, such call results in the message:

```
% Attempt to call undefined procedure/function: 'TEMP__DEFINE'.  
% Structure type not defined: TEMP.
```

Just as expected.

I did not realize that HELP will call definition method without me creating an object instance first.

Cheers,  
Pavel

Ben Tupper wrote:

- > It is expected (at least I expect) the named structure to be retained
- > from session to session. When I start-up a new session,
- > I can do as you describe, HELP, {temp}, /Str and get output of all of the
- > fields. The pointers are all null-pointers and the
- > other fields are as I defined them in the Temp\_\_Define procedure.
- >
- > I think you are describing a different behavior and I'm not clear on what
- > the behavior is. As an example, it sounds like you might have defined a
- > string field in the temp\_\_DEFINE procedure as Temp.Name = ". Later
- > you did something like oTemp->SetProperty, Name = 'PAVEL'. Then you
- > quit (or reset). Doing the Help, {Temp},Str shows Temp.Name =
- > 'PAVEL'. Am I getting that right?g

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Subject: Re: Object definition

Posted by [Ben Tupper](#) on Fri, 07 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Pavel Romashkin wrote:

- > When I define an object (user-defined), there, of course, is a named
- > structure named, lets say, "temp". So I can call "help, {temp}" to see
- > what the fields are. Then, I reset IDL or even quit it. Then, start it
- > again and type "help, {temp}" again - the information is printed out
- > about the last state of the structure! Strange.
- > I use 5.3 on a Mac.
- > Thanks for any input.
- > Pavel

Hello,

It is expected (at least I expect) the named structure to be retained from session to session. When I start-up a new session, I can do as you describe, HELP, {temp}, /Str and get output of all of the fields. The pointers are all null-pointers and the other fields are as I defined them in the Temp\_\_Define procedure.

I think you are describing a different behavior and I'm not clear on what the behavior is. As an example, it sounds like you might have defined a string field in the temp\_\_DEFINE procedure as Temp.Name = ". Later

you did something like oTemp->SetProperty, Name = 'PAVEL'. Then you quit (or reset). Doing the Help, {Temp},Str shows Temp.Name = 'PAVEL'. Am I getting that right?

Ben

--

Ben Tupper

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Subject: Re: Object definition  
Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Sun, 09 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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Any named structure (of the both the regular and object-class-defining varieties) which IDL doesn't know about will cause a search on the path for a defining procedure "name\_\_define.pro". We take this functionality for granted... so much so that various confusing things can happen when it is circumvented (e.g. by restoring an object or named structure).

JD

--

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