
Subject: Re: Structure of Structure

Posted by [Thomas A. McGlynn](#) on Tue, 24 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Stephan Oerder wrote:

>
> Thanks a lot !!!
> I tried it already on a PC-IDL-System !!!!
> But we need it on a VAX-VMS-System !!!
> Do you (or somebody else) have the PRO-File of "Create_Struct(...)" ???
> Stephan

>
> Theo Brauers wrote:

>> You may try:
>>
>> m1 = create_struct('a', 0, 'b', bytarr(12))
>> m2 = create_struct(name='m2_str', 'a', 0, 'c', fltarr(12))
>> ; array of structures
>> m3 = replicate(m2, 3)
>>
>> m = create_struct('a1', m1)
>> m = create_struct(m, 'a2' , m2)
>> m = create_struct(m, 'a3' , m3)
>>
>> Best, Theo
>> -----
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You might also want to look at a function I wrote a few years ago called MRD_STRUCT. It takes two string array arguments. The first gives the names of the structure columns and the second gives a prototype for what the column should look like.

E.g., A call would might look like:

```
names = ["name_for_col1", "name_for_col2",...]  
vals = ["dblarr(10,10)", "OL", "intarr(3,2,4), ...]
```

```
str = mrd_struct(names, vals)
```

with additional optional arguments to create an array of structures or to define the structure type. If you request a structure of more than 128 elements, then the routine automatically

creates substructures, putting the first 64 elements in the top level structure, the next 64 in a structure as the 65th element and so forth. I believe this has run successfully on VAXes for versions of IDL > 3.6.

It's available in the IDL Astronomy library at:

[http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/structure/mrd_struct.p ro](http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/structure/mrd_struct.pro)

Good luck,

Tom McGlynn
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