
Subject: Re: Help: Pointer

Posted by [steinhh](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Vu Khac Tri wrote:

> But in C, when c is modified, (*pc) is also modified because
> pc points to the memory where c is. That mean, if c = 5, *pc = 5.

You're right. IDL doesn't have pointers in the same sense as C does - there is no "address of" operator, and there is no way to make a pointer that points to a normal variable.

The closest thing (and it's close enough to emulate the C behaviour, but not it's notation) is:

```
IDL> c=ptr_new(4)
IDL> pc=c
IDL> print,*pc
    4
IDL> *c = 5
IDL> print,*pc
    5
```

I.e., you have two pointers, pointing to the same heap variable. The only difference from C notation is that you have to dereference *both* variables as pointers.

Regards,

Stein Vidar
