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Subject: Re: newbie question / concatenation of arrays of nested structure  
Posted by [Thomas A. McGlynn](#) on Wed, 08 Sep 1999 07:00:00 GMT  
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If you don't want to modify the code that is creating the structures to be concatenated then neither of these approaches might be feasible. You could then do something like:

```
first = replicate({...}, ...)
....
second = replicate({...}, ...)
....

temp = replicate(first[0], n_elements(second));
for i=0, n_tags(first[0])-1 do temp.(i) = second.(i)
first = [first,temp]
```

This still isn't too bad, just three lines for a reasonably generic solution.

So long as the types agree you don't even have to worry about the structure tag names matching. One could make build this into a function easily enough -- though a general routine would probably need to deal with recursive structures intelligently (and maybe multi-dimensional arrays of structures).

Regards,  
Tom McGlynn

Liam Gumley wrote:

```
>
> Liam Gumley wrote:
>> The only way to create equivalent structures is to use named structures,
>> e.g.
>>
>> IDL> record = {z, a:0, b:'name', c:0}
>> IDL> first = replicate(record, 5)
>> IDL> second = replicate(record, 3)
>> IDL> combo = [first, second]
>
> Note to self: Any time you say "The only way" in this newsgroup, you're
> bound to be wrong.
>
> David's web page correctly points out that copies of an anonymous
> structure are equivalent, and thus can be concatenated, e.g.
>
> IDL> record = {a:0, b:'name', c:{d:0, e:0}}
> IDL> a = record
> IDL> b = record
```

```
> IDL> c = [a, b]
>
> Cheers,
> Liam.
>
> --
> Liam E. Gumley
> Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
> http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley
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