
Subject: Re: pointer to structures

Posted by [Ben Tupper](#) on Tue, 04 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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eeeyler@my-deja.com wrote:

```
> suppose I wish to create a structure and wish to reference that
> structure and its contents via a pointer:
> filter=ptr_new({points:['a','b'],pt1_value:200, pt2_value:'X_WHYLOG'})
> how do I reference the points array? I thought it would be as:
> print, *filter.points
> but I get the message
> %Expression must be a structure in this context: Filter
> Thank you for your help!
>
>
```

Hello,

You must first dereference the pointer before dereferencing the structure.

```
IDL> print,(*filter).points
a b
```

This is the exact problem I bump into all the time when I have structures of pointers or pointers of structures of pointers. I always have to slow down and noodle it out. Unfortunately, for me, it has been just like riding a bike... I seem to always forget.

Good luck,

Ben

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Ben Tupper

Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science
tupper@seadas.bigelow.org

pemaquidriver@tidewater.net
