
Subject: Re: Structure field concatenation

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Wed, 06 Sep 2000 14:16:02 GMT

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Amara Graps wrote:

>
> (at the risk of being the only one here who still hasn't
> figured this out)
>

Reset.

Now try again from scratch:

```
;; create template structure and structure array
template = {orbit:"",freq:ptr_new()}
periodcube = replicate(template, 20)
```

```
;; fill first element with data
periodcube.orbit = 'G2'
periodcube.freq = Ptr_New( DIndgen(100) )
```

```
;; Work with data
plot, *(periodcube.freq), title=periodcube.orbit
```

```
;; Free all pointers
Ptr_Free, periodcube.freq
```

You probably didn't want to use a second `Ptr_New` statement out of fear that would allocate extra memory and create a memory leak. This is no problem, because the `Ptr_New()` statement with no argument only "declares" a pointer but does not allocate any memory for the data it will eventually point to. Only if you want to replace the data in a structure element, then you need to free the pointer beforehand:

```
;; Replace data of first structure
IF Ptr_Valid(periodcube.freq) THEN Ptr_Free,
periodcube.freq
periodcube.freq = Ptr_New( DIndgen(200)*0.1 )
```

Hope this will clear your mind,
Martin

PS:

> "Never fight an inanimate object." - P. J. O'Rourke
No, it's far better to write them ;-)

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