

---

Subject: Re: pointer question  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sun, 25 Mar 2001 17:24:43 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Ted Graves wrote:

>  
> Hi all,  
>  
> Another lurker question ... let's say you define a pointer using the PTR\_NEW  
> function and assign to a variable x. As long as you keep track of x and don't  
> reassign x and lose the pointer to the heap variable, things are great. You  
> can remove the heap variable from memory using the PTR\_FREE procedure.  
>  
> But now let's say i have a function TEST that takes a pointer as an argument,  
> and i want to create a pointer on the fly to use in TEST. So i do something  
> like  
>  
> result = TEST(PTR\_NEW(value))  
>  
> where value is whatever i want the heap variable to be. What happens to the  
> heap variable assigned in this statement after TEST returns? I'm assuming  
> from that because of the way it was created, a heap variable now exists that i  
> can't easily get rid of without using HEAP\_GC.  
>  
> Me and my sloppy programming ...  
>  
> Ted Graves  
> Magnetic Resonance Science Center, UCSF

We have a routine in our library which I am using often in this case.

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/download/rec\\_ptr\\_free.tar.gz](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/rec_ptr_free.tar.gz)

For further routines and licensing please look at  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich

email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de  
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

=====

a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Jülich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

---