
Subject: Re: Defining Integer Field in a Structure

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Thu, 01 Nov 2001 21:24:12 GMT

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Brian Bell wrote:

>
> Is there a way to define a field within a structure whose type is
> integer? In my case, I want the field to be any integer from 0 to 4.
> I know you can assign an actual integer to the field, but I don't want
> to do this because I want the field value to change within certain
> procedures and to return that value to the procedures calling it. I
> would appreciate any help you might be able to offer.
>

This is illegal:

```
IDL> a={0:"this", 1:"is",2:"a",3:"funny",4:"test"}
```

so the short answer is no. However, if you just want 4 numbered "slots", try an array:

```
IDL> a={vals:['this','is','a','funny','test']}
```

```
IDL> print,a.vals[1]
```

is

if you'd like the types of each slot to be different, try at a pointer array. If you'd like the number of "slots" to be variable, try a pointer to a pointer array.

JD
