Subject: Re: Creating pointer in structure
Posted by David Fanning on Thu, 01 Nov 2001 15:01:58 GMT
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K. Bowman (k-bowma@null.tamu.edu) writes:

> If I need to define a structure containing a pointer before I know the
> characteristics of the associated heap variable, which of the following
> is preferable? Does it make any difference, or is it simply a matter
> of programming taste?
>
>
> For example:
>
> a = {point: PTR_NEW()} ;Create struct w/ null pointer
> ... figure out what n is
> a.point = PTR_NEW(FINDGEN(n)) ;Replace null pointer
>
>
> or
>
>
> b = {point: PTR_NEW(/ALLOCATE_HEAP)} ;Create struct w/ pointer->undef
> ... figure out what n is
> *b.point = FINDGEN(n) ;Define heap var

I think it is a matter of programming taste,
although I have to admit, I find the latter
formulation easier to work with in larger,
more complicated programs because I don't have
to worry about whether the pointer is valid or not.

Cheers,

David
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