
Subject: alignment of IDL structures: what's the *real* story?

Posted by [alans](#) on Mon, 08 Jun 1992 16:16:18 GMT

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Ok, I thought I had this alignment stuff all figured out here, but now it gets even worse! I have IDL 2.2.1 running on a sun 4, which loves to have things longword aligned, I know... However, if I create a structure of structures like this:

Lines: 29

```
lw = long (0)
; "simple" is 44 bytes long
simple = { SIMPLE_T, a: lw, b: lw, c: lw, x: lonarr(8) }

; "bigger" should be 104 bytes. but it's 112!
bigger = { BIGGER_T, a: lw, b: lonarr (3), x: simple, y: simple }
```

```
IDL> help,/str,a
```

```
** Structure BIGGER_T, 4 tags, length=112:
```

```
A      LONG      0
B      LONG      Array(3)
X      STRUCT    -> SIMPLE_T Array(1)
Y      STRUCT    -> SIMPLE_T Array(1)
```

```
IDL> help,/str,a.x
```

```
** Structure SIMPLE_T, 4 tags, length=44:
```

```
A      LONG      0
B      LONG      0
C      LONG      0
X      LONG      Array(8)
```

```
IDL> print,!version
```

```
{ sparc sunos 2.2.1}
```

So what's the story? Are structures automatically double-aligned? This is getting *really* horrid...

[ps: If posting a reply, please email me a copy.]

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Alan J.Stein MIT/Lincoln Laboratory alans@ll.mit.edu
