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Subject: Re: pointer and structure stuff ...

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 24 Feb 2004 15:39:29 GMT

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Ingo Salzmann writes:

```
> Can anybody please help me with the following banal problem ...
>
> IDL> info = {vectors:Ptr_New(vectors)}
> IDL> v1 = Indgen(3,30)
> IDL> *info.vectors = {v1:v1}
> IDL> help, (*info.vectors).v1
> <Expression>  INT      = Array[3, 30]
>
> IDL> temp = Intarr(3,20)
> IDL> (*info.vectors).v1 = temp
> IDL> help, (*info.vectors).v1
> <Expression>  INT      = Array[3, 30]
>
> with the first 60 elements zeroed ...
> Can I have IDL resize its variable (*info.vectors).v1 easier than by the
> following statement:
>
> IDL> v1=Intarr((SIZE(temp))[1],(SIZE(temp))[2])
> IDL> *info.vectors = {v1:v1}
> IDL> (*info.vectors).v1 = temp
> IDL> help, (*info.vectors).v1
> <Expression>  INT      = Array[3, 20]
>
> If dealing with a large ammount of elements stored in the info structure
> this doesn't seem handy to me :-)
```

No, I wouldn't think so. :-)

Is there a particular reason why you are putting your vectors into a structure? In other words, why aren't your vectors a field of your info structure, rather than in a structure of their own? Pointers to structures are pretty much designed to drive you crazy, what with all the extraneous parentheses needed to get things to work. :-)

As a field in your info structure, you could do this:

```
info = {vectors:Ptr_New(/Allocate_Heap)}
data = Fltarr(3, 30)
*info.vectors = data
newdata = IntArr(2, 20)
*info.vectors = newdata
```

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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