Subject: Re: On Pointers and Culture Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 14:05:14 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Antonio Santiago writes:

> If you are new on IDL pointers remember are not the same as C pointers.

Another way they are different, and this surprises even people who have used them for awhile, is that they are much more forgiving of rough handling. More like IDL variables, really, than pointers. So you can do something like this:

```
ptr = Ptr_New([1,4,6]); Pointer to array
*ptr = 8.4; Pointer now points to scalar
Print, *ptr
 8.4
```

And there is no leaking of memory because IDL manages all this for you, as it does with variables. Naturally, this is dangerous, etc., but it is so, so nice. :-)

Cheers,

David

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