
Subject: Re: Pass by value and performance

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Wed, 14 Dec 2005 17:28:07 GMT

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Perhaps someone can clarify this for me.

I was doing this

```
data = {values : FLTARR(...), $
        other  : other stuff ...}
```

Then pass "data" to a procedure and do this

```
result = INTERPOLATE(data.values, x, y, z)
```

In this case data.values is passed by reference. (p. 92 of Building IDL Applications)

If I were to use pointers, I could do something like this instead

```
data = {values : PTR_NEW(FLTARR(...)), $
        other  : other stuff ...}
```

Pass "data" to a procedure and do this

```
result = INTERPOLATE(*data.values, x, y, z)
```

Is *data.values passed by reference or by value? And how does one tell?

Ken
