
Subject: Re: changing a datatype in a structure

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Thu, 11 May 2006 20:18:56 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

> You cannot change the type of a variable inside a structure, but you can add a
> new variable to an existing (anonymous) structure.

>

> IDL> data = {i : LINDGEN(5)}

> IDL> help, data, /str

> ** Structure <215d270>, 1 tags, length=20, data length=20, refs=1:

> I LONG Array[5]

> IDL> data = CREATE_STRUCT(data, 'x', FLOAT(data.i))

> IDL> help, data, /str

> ** Structure <215d330>, 2 tags, length=40, data length=40, refs=1:

> I LONG Array[5]

> X FLOAT Array[5]

> IDL> print, data

> { 0 1 2 3 4

> 0.00000 1.00000 2.00000 3.00000 4.00000

> }

Yes, but what you've actually done is destroy the old one and create a new one, as the different ID numbers above attest. The difference doesn't generally matter for structures with small amounts of data but it certainly can for large ones.

--

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