

---

Subject: Re: make\_scalar?

Posted by [Jim Pendleton](#) on Sun, 03 Jun 2007 00:13:56 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"jkj" <kevin@vexona.com> wrote in message

news:1180815896.610302.271370@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com.. .

> On Jun 1, 6:19 pm, Marshall Perrin <mperrin+n...@serpens.berkeley.edu>

> wrote:

>> Is there an equivalent of make\_array that will create a scalar variable,

>> of a type only specified at runtime? Of course I can just create an

>> array and then truncate it to a scalar,

>> v = (make\_array(1,type=typecode))[0]

>> but that seems kind of convoluted. I searched around a bit and didn't

>> find anything, but perhaps I'm missing something obvious. I do that

>> from time to time. :-)

>>

>> - Marshall

>

> I resemble the mark about missing obvious things :-) so I'll reply

> that it seems to me all scalar variables in IDL match your

> description. That is, any scalar variable can be of any type and

> dynamic assignment is the norm, therefore the equivalent of make\_array

> for scalars would be completely redundant.

>

> So, what obvious thing am I missing in your question?

> -Kevin

>

I've run into situations like this when I have a data description in a separate

place from a data stream. For example, if I have a socket client that must read

a data type before allocating the appropriate amount of space to read the subsequent data.

The FIX function has a TYPE keyword to allow the creation of a scalar of a particular IDL numeric data type.

Jim P.

---