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Subject: Re: Creating an IDL array within C?  
Posted by [MC](#) on Sat, 30 Aug 2008 16:52:07 GMT  
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On Aug 30, 1:40 am, "hotplainr...@gmail.com" <hotplainr...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi guys,  
>  
> Another problem for everyone. Yay!  
>  
> Firstly, I'm working on translating code from IDL to C for CUDA  
> purposes by re-writing it as a system routine.  
>  
> so the issue:  
>  
> Within IDL, the user can do this  
>  
> IDL> help, data6  
> DATA6        UNDEFINED = <Undefined>  
>  
> and call an arbitrary function that will have it created.  
>  
> thisfunc, data6, wv  
>  
> Within thisfunc.pro  
> pro thisfunc, data6, wv  
>    data6 = fltarr(5,6)  
>  
> How do I do this in C?  
> Is it even possible or do I have to ensure that data6 exists before I  
> call my system routine?  
>  
> Regards  
> Zaki

When you create the function prototype you declare the variable, even if it has no value at that time.

In your case 'data6' could be a pointer variable for an as yet unsized or variable sized array  
-at least that's how I remember ANSI C should work e.g.

<myheader.h>

```
int thisfunc(float *data6, int wv ....);
```

Cheers

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