
Subject: Moving to objects loses array functionality?
Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Mon, 03 Nov 2008 22:43:18 GMT
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Originally posted by: Demitri

Hi,

I'm trying to implement some of my data as proper IDL objects, but I'm either missing some syntax or else am losing some array functionality in the process.

Let's say I have the following structures:

```
void = {BOOK, $  
  author : ", $  
  pChapters : PTR_NEW()}
```

```
void = {CHAPTER, $  
  title : ", $  
  pageCount : 0}
```

pChapters is a pointer to contain a variable number of chapters in the BOOK structure. If I create an array of BOOKs, I can do this:

```
IDL> print, books.author
```

...and get a list of all of the authors. I can also use utilities like WHERE of course.

What I'm wondering is if I can extract a list of, say, all of the chapter names as a list (perhaps my example doesn't seem useful, but ignore that!). I was hoping something like this would work:

```
IDL> print, (*books.pChapters).title
```

...especially since "books.pChapters" does return an array of pointers.

Is there something I can do here without resorting to FOR loops within methods in the BOOK object?

Cheers!

Demitri
