
Subject: Re: Is a dynamically sized pointer array object component possible?

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 22 May 2009 16:45:44 GMT

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Paul van Delst wrote:

```
> That's what my first example above does (it was the only way I could
> make it work). I was trying to avoid that if possible to avoid the
> double dereferencing that would require in the object methods - as in
> your "get" and "set" method:
>
>> function blah::get, m, n
>>   compile_opt strictarr
>>
>>   return, (*(*self.y)[m])[n]
>> end
>>
>> pro blah::set, m, n, value
>>   compile_opt strictarr
>>
>>   (*(*self.y)[m])[n] = value
>> end
>
> And that is what I am doing now in my code. For example, my "set" method
> does
>
>   (*self.Frequency)[_Band] = Frequency
>   (*self.Response)[_Band] = Response
>
> (where Frequency and Response are vectors.[*])
>
> I just wanted to avoid the (*self.y) double dereference (DD) if
> possible. It has zero impact on the user, of course - I want to avoid
> the DDing for my own benefit (insert sheepish grin here)
>
> Thanks for taking the time to write the code. It's a nice teaching example.
```

Another way to do it would be for "::allocate, n" to just create a pointer to a single vector of size TOTAL(n) and also save the n array, then for "::get, i, j" to use TOTAL(n, /CUMULATIVE) to find the correct value(s). I'm not sure that would be simpler, but it would eliminate the double dereference.

```
> [*] BTW, note also my use of "_Band". I have now adopted your
> methodology for things like,
>
> ; Check band keyword argument
> IF ( N_ELEMENTS(Band) GT 0 ) THEN _Band = LONG(Band[0])-1 ELSE _Band = 0L
>
```

- > based on your post a few days ago. I've noticed that these type of
- > small, incremental changes to create more robust code (like the snippet
- > above) eventually leads to shifts in other people's perceptions about
- > writing clean code (e.g. no side effects). Nothing earth shattering in
- > this little post scriptum, of course, but still neat.

Cool!

Mike

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