Subject: Re: More efficient method of appending to arrays when using pointers?
Posted by natha on Wed, 05 Jan 2011 03:07:07 GMT
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I don't know but I don't thing so. The use of the TEMPORARY function allows to save time programming with large amounts of data (in my experience) I didn't find any contradictions to this.
I think that the use of TEMPORARY is always better. You will lose efficiency using small data (for example, single scalars or small arrays).

The simple reason is that you are not duplicating memory. In the case discussed above, you are not copying the content of your pointer, you are just retrieving it.

You can do your own tests, for example:

```
  a=PTR_NEW(BYTARR(10000000),/NO_COPY)

  tt=SYSTIME(/SEC)
  b=*a
  PRINT, SYSTIME(/SEC)-tt

  tt=SYSTIME(/SEC)
  b=TEMPORARY(*a) ;; do not forget that you are losing the content of
your pointer
  PRINT, SYSTIME(/SEC)-tt
```

nata