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Subject: Re: Name of arrays

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 21 Feb 2012 21:43:59 GMT

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Israel Rodriguez Hermelo writes:

```
> I've been trying to work with structures and pointers for a while but
> I found them confusing. I can not stop thinking about the solution of
> my problem with IDL v8.
>
> If I understand right, these few lines would resolve my problems:
>
> MONTH=['MARCH','JULY']
>
> DAY=HASH()
> TEMPERATURE=HASH()
>
> Nmonth=N_ELEMENTS(MONTH)
>
> for i=0, Nmonth-1 do begin
>
>   readcol, 'DATA_'+MONTH(i)+'.txt', D, T
>
>   DAY[MONTH(i)]=D
>   TEMPERATURE[MONTH(i)]=T
>
> endfor
>
> plot, DAY[MONTH(0)], TEMPERATURE[MONTH(0)]
>   oplot, DAY[MONTH(1)], TEMPERATURE[MONTH(1)]
>
>
> Would this code work? If the answer is yes, then I need to talk with
> my boss about IDL v8 ;)
```

A hash is nothing more than an fancy interface for pointers. If you want to use one in your version of IDL, you can use Craig's:

<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/arrays.html>

But, I don't know how you would ever understand what a hash was without knowing at least \*something\* about pointers.

Craig's structure was a form of a hash, where the "key" is really the structure tag.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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