
Subject: Re: Name of arrays

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 21 Feb 2012 16:38:34 GMT

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On Feb 21, 10:12 am, David Fanning <n...@idlcoyote.com> wrote:

> Craig Markwardt writes:

>> No, structures are easy. You can add as many elements as you want and
>> they can be any size that you want.

>

>> ; First you create a dummy structure, or add some overall "metadata"
>> information if you want.

>> my_struct = {file_date:'2012-01-03'} ;; Whatever you want

>

>> ; Then add as many data points as you want.

>> my_struct = create_struct(my_struct, TEMPERATURE+MONTH(0), fltarr(28))

>> my_struct = create_struct(my_struct, TEMPERATURE+MONTH(1), fltarr(30))

>> ...

>> my_struct = create_struct(my_struct, TEMPERATURE+MONTH(11),

>> fltarr(30))

>

>> Pointers introduce their own overhead of allocating, managing and de-
>> allocating them. Structures are totally extensible and have basically
>> no mental overhead.

>

>> Later on, you can retrieve the contents with TAG_NAMES(), and the
>> "structure array" notation my_struct.(N).

>

> See, what did I tell you? Structures are totally inflexible,
> unless you know what you are doing with them. ;-)

It's just a matter of which foot you shoot. :-)
