
Subject: Re: Name of arrays

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 21 Feb 2012 15:12:43 GMT

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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. ;-)

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.")
