
Subject: Re: Name of arrays

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 21 Feb 2012 14:50:39 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Craig Markwardt wrote:

> On Feb 20, 1:15 pm, Brian Wolven <brian.wol...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> Or create_struct, using the month as the tag name, for pretty much any version of IDL.

>

> +1.

and once more: +1.

To the OP, it's quite easy to modify structures as you go - as long as you use anonymous structure. So in your case you could do something like:

```
IDL> t = findgen(31)
```

```
IDL> month_data = create_struct('january', t)
```

```
IDL> help, month_data
```

```
** Structure <9430c3c>, 1 tags, length=124, data length=124, refs=1:
```

```
  JANUARY      FLOAT   Array[31]
```

```
IDL> print, month_data.january
```

0.00000	1.00000	2.00000	3.00000	4.00000	5.00000	6.00000
7.00000	8.00000	9.00000	10.0000	11.0000	12.0000	13.0000
14.0000	15.0000	16.0000	17.0000	18.0000	19.0000	20.0000
21.0000	22.0000	23.0000	24.0000	25.0000	26.0000	27.0000
28.0000	29.0000	30.0000				

```
IDL> t = findgen(28)+10.
```

```
IDL> month_data = create_struct(month_data, 'february', t)
```

```
IDL> help, month_data
```

```
** Structure <9430f6c>, 2 tags, length=236, data length=236, refs=1:
```

```
  JANUARY      FLOAT   Array[31]
```

```
  FEBRUARY     FLOAT   Array[28]
```

```
IDL> print, month_data.february
```

10.0000	11.0000	12.0000	13.0000	14.0000	15.0000	16.0000
17.0000	18.0000	19.0000	20.0000	21.0000	22.0000	23.0000
24.0000	25.0000	26.0000	27.0000	28.0000	29.0000	30.0000
31.0000	32.0000	33.0000	34.0000	35.0000	36.0000	37.0000

It's like a poor man's hash, e.g.:

```
IDL> print, month_data.(where(tag_names(month_data) EQ 'FEBRUARY'))
```

10.0000	11.0000	12.0000	13.0000	14.0000	15.0000	16.0000
17.0000	18.0000	19.0000	20.0000	21.0000	22.0000	23.0000
24.0000	25.0000	26.0000	27.0000	28.0000	29.0000	30.0000
31.0000	32.0000	33.0000	34.0000	35.0000	36.0000	37.0000

cheers,

paulv

p.s. I reckon it's worth upgrading to v8.* to get access to IDL's HASH:

```
IDL> month_data=HASH()
IDL> help, month_data
MONTH_DATA    HASH <ID=1 NELEMENTS=0>
IDL> month_data['January']=findgen(31)
IDL> month_data['February']=findgen(28)+10
IDL> help, month_data
MONTH_DATA    HASH <ID=1 NELEMENTS=2>
IDL> print, month_data['February']
  10.0000   11.0000   12.0000   13.0000   14.0000   15.0000   16.0000
  17.0000   18.0000   19.0000   20.0000   21.0000   22.0000   23.0000
  24.0000   25.0000   26.0000   27.0000   28.0000   29.0000   30.0000
  31.0000   32.0000   33.0000   34.0000   35.0000   36.0000   37.0000
```

It's just simpler.
