
Subject: array of structures with pointers

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Mon, 06 May 2013 17:31:15 GMT

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I think I am having brain freeze this morning.

I want to make an array of structures, where each includes a pointer.

```
IDL> st = {flux:ptr_new(/all)}      ;Create a structure with a pointer
IDL> st = replicate(st,20)          ;I want a structure with 20 elements
IDL> *st[0].flux = 3.2               ;Assign a value to the zeroth structure element
IDL> print,*st[4].flux              ;What?? - the fourth structure element also gets this value
      3.20000
```

OK, I can figure out what is going on.

```
IDL> st = {flux:ptr_new(/all)}      ;Create a structure with a pointer
IDL> st = replicate(st,20)          ;I want a structure with 20 elements
IDL> help,st[0].flux
<Expression>  POINTER  = <PtrHeapVar40>
IDL> help,st[4].flux
<Expression>  POINTER  = <PtrHeapVar40>
```

Ah, so when I replicated the pointers, they all point to the same location. So when I update the value in this location once, all the pointers will be updated. So I understand what happened but how do I get what I want -- for each structure tag in the array to be an independent pointer?

Thanks, ---Wayne

P.S. I now think I want the flux tag to be a LIST(), but I would still like to know how to make a structure array with independent pointers.
