
Subject: Re: Linked List

Posted by [hto](#) on Wed, 26 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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

On 22 Mar 1997 03:56:28 GMT, martin@uthscsa.edu (Charles Martin) wrote:

> In article <333118AC.41C67EA6@pml.ac.uk>, Nigel Helliwell <nih@pml.ac.uk> wrote:

>

>> Hi all,

>> I'm trying to create a linked list structure in IDL, it is a list of
>> records(structures) which I need to create dynamically.

>>

>> POINTER TO record

>> record = {NAME,VAR1,VAR2,...,(POINTER TO NEXT RECORD)}

>> etc.

>> If anyone has any idea how to go about this please could you give me a
>> few ideas.

>> Thankyou,

>> Nigel.

>> <nih@pml.ac.uk>

>

> I think you can do it with handles. IDL version 5 is supposed to have
> pointers. If this is the case then you may want to wait until you get V5.

>

> Charles Martin

> University of Texas

IDL has builtins to create and manage linked lists. Use `handle_create`, `handle_info`, etc. It's very straightforward and elegant. You do not have (or need) direct access to the link pointers. All links are accessed via link id's. You can explicitly access the first record and then succeeding records until the list is exhausted (id of -1 returned). Therefore you can create while loops to operate on the entire list without needing to know the number of elements in the list (although that is readily available). You can also deallocate individual elements or the entire list (with one line of code) and I believe that the memory is returned to the IDL pool for reuse.

Howard Onishi
