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Subject: Re: Calling data from a structure of pointers?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 10 Mar 2005 22:46:33 GMT  
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Jonathan Greenberg writes:

> Hopefully this'll be a quicky -- I have a structure of pointers, so if I,  
> for instance, print,structure.pointername I get something like:  
>  
> <PtrHeapVar5917><PtrHeapVar5922>  
>  
> I want to ACCESS the data from that structure tho, but:  
>  
> print,\*structure.pointername doesn't work, nor does  
> print,structure.\*pointername nor:  
>  
> tempvar=structure.pointername  
> print,\*tempvar  
>  
> How do I retrieve the data the pointers are referring to?

If you really have a structure of pointers, then this *\*must\**  
work:

```
IDL> Print, *structure.pointername
```

Because structure dereferences have a higher order of precedence  
than pointer dereferences.

But from your description, it seems more likely that structure  
is a pointer to a structure of pointers. (I can't really tell  
*\*what\** you have there.)

Perhaps something like this would work with whatever it  
is you have:

```
*(*structure).pointername
```

You might find this article helpful:

[http://www.dfanning.com/misc\\_tips/precedence.html](http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/precedence.html)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: Calling data from a structure of pointers?  
Posted by [R.G.Stockwell](#) on Thu, 10 Mar 2005 23:09:30 GMT  
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"Jonathan Greenberg" <usenet@estarcion.net> wrote in message  
news:BE560C66.3FE3%usenet@estarcion.net...  
> Hopefully this'll be a quicky -- I have a structure of pointers, so if I,  
> for instance, print,structure.pointername I get something like:  
>  
> <PtrHeapVar5917><PtrHeapVar5922>

This is an odd result.  
My guess is that structure.pointername is a structure of pointers.  
(i.e. you have a structure where the tag "pointername" is a structure  
that has two pointers in it.

Anyways, here is a snippet showing how the structures and pointers work:

```
s = {p1:ptr_new(/alloc),p2:ptr_new(/alloc)}
```

```
pointtostruct = ptr_new(/alloc)  
*pointtostruct = s  
*s.p1 = 15  
*s.p2 = 'hello'
```

```
print,'s.p1'  
print,s.p1
```

```
print,'s.p2'  
print,s.p2
```

```
print,'*s.p1'  
print,*s.p1
```

```
print,'pointtostruct'  
print,pointtostruct
```

```
print,'*pointtostruct'  
print,*pointtostruct
```

```
print,'*(*pointtostruct).p1'  
print,*(*pointtostruct).p1
```

end

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Subject: Re: Calling data from a structure of pointers?  
Posted by [Antonio Santiago](#) on Fri, 11 Mar 2005 06:57:35 GMT  
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Jonathan Greenberg wrote:

> How do I retrieve the data the pointers are referring to?

pStr is pointer to a structure variable. This structure has 2 pointer fields.

```
pStr = PTR_NEW(  
{  
  a: PTR_NEW(10),  
  b: PTR_NEW(INDGEN(3))  
})
```

pStr - Pointer variable to structure stored in HEAP memory.

```
IDL> help, pStr
```

```
PSTR      POINTER = <PtrHeapVar6>
```

\*pStr - The content that pStr points to, that is, the structure stored in HEAP memory.

```
IDL> help, *pStr, /STRUCT
```

```
** Structure <1f06f8>, 2 tags, length=8, data length=8, refs=1:
```

```
  A      POINTER <PtrHeapVar4>  
  B      POINTER <PtrHeapVar5>
```

(\*pStr).a - First "get" the structure and then access to the first pointer field 'a'.

```
IDL> help, (*pStr).a
```

```
<Expression>  POINTER = <PtrHeapVar4>
```

(\*(\*pStr).a) - The same as above but obtain the content that 'a' points (10).

```
IDL> help, (*(*pStr).a)
```

```
<PtrHeapVar4> INT = 10
```

And the same for 'b' field:

```
IDL> help, (*pStr).b
```

```
<Expression>  POINTER = <PtrHeapVar5>
```

```
IDL> help, (*(*pStr).b)
```

```
<PtrHeapVar5> INT = Array[3]
```

```
IDL> arr =>(*pStr).b
IDL> print, arr
    0    1    2
```

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Subject: Re: Calling data from a structure of pointers?  
Posted by [Jonathan Greenberg](#) on Fri, 11 Mar 2005 17:16:10 GMT  
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Hi all -- looks like I had been doing this is a bit wrong -- it did end up working right -- \*structure.pointer[x] was what I needed (I didn't include the [] it turns out)...

--j

On 3/10/05 10:57 PM, in article d0rfgv\$d6v\$1@defalla.upc.es, "Antonio Santiago" <d6522117@est.fib.upc.es> wrote:

```
> Jonathan Greenberg wrote:
>
>> How do I retrieve the data the pointers are referring to?
>
> pStr is pointer to a structure variable. This structure has 2 pointer
> fields.
>
> pStr = PTR_NEW(
> {
> a: PTR_NEW(10),
> b: PTR_NEW(INDGEN(3))
> })
>
>
> pStr - Pointer variable to structure stored in HEAP memory.
> IDL> help, pStr
> PSTR      POINTER = <PtrHeapVar6>
>
> *pStr - The content that pStr points to, that is, the structure
> stored in HEAP memory.
> IDL> help, *pStr, /STRUCT
> ** Structure <1f06f8>, 2 tags, length=8, data length=8, refs=1:
>  A      POINTER <PtrHeapVar4>
>  B      POINTER <PtrHeapVar5>
>
> (*pStr).a - First "get" the structure and then access to the first
> pointer field 'a'.
> IDL> help, (*pStr).a
```

```
> <Expression> POINTER = <PtrHeapVar4>
>
> (*pStr).a - The same as above but obtain the content that 'a'
> points (10).
> IDL> help, (*pStr).a
> <PtrHeapVar4> INT = 10
>
> And the same for 'b' field:
> IDL> help, (*pStr).b
> <Expression> POINTER = <PtrHeapVar5>
> IDL> help, (*pStr).b
> <PtrHeapVar5> INT = Array[3]
>
>
> IDL> arr = (*pStr).b
> IDL> print, arr
> 0 1 2
>
>
>
```

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