
Subject: Re: Deallocate Memory for a Structure
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 14 Oct 2005 07:06:36 GMT
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Archais wrote:

> I am reading data files in IDL into a structure that was defined by
> ascii_template. Once the data is loaded, the structure is fairly
> large. The data files are organized in days and I have the data
> loading routine in a loop over the number of days in a year so that the
> same structure gets written over with a new day's data for each
> iteration. The program starts out fine, loading the data fairly
> quickly, but the program begins slowing down gradually. I'm pretty
> sure its a memory issue, but I can't seem to find any routine that will
> deallocate the memory used by the structure. Is there any such
> routine, and if so what is it?
>
> Thanks
> Archais
>

```
a=create_Struct('test',1)
a=0
```

or

```
dummy=temporary(a)
```

If you use pointers

```
a=ptr_new(create_Struct('test',1))

ptr_free,a
```

Did you have profiled your routine?

cheers

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
=====

Subject: Re: Deallocate Memory for a Structure
Posted by peter.albert@gmx.de on Fri, 14 Oct 2005 07:34:18 GMT
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Or, if you are using a structure of pointers:

```
for i = 0, n_tags(struc) -1 do $  
  if ptr_valid(struc.(i)) then ptr_free, struc.(i)
```

or, if you just want to get rid of all pointers:

```
ptr_free, ptr_valid(/cast)
```

Regards,

Peter

Subject: Re: Deallocate Memory for a Structure
Posted by [Robert Moss](#) on Sat, 15 Oct 2005 04:46:05 GMT
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Reimar Bauer wrote:

```
>  
> a=create_Struct('test',1)  
> a=0  
>  
> or  
>  
> dummy=temporary(a)  
>
```

dummy = temporary(a) does not free any memory. It simply renames the variable that contains the structure. Setting a to zero certainly does work.

--

Subject: Re: Deallocate Memory for a Structure
Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Sat, 15 Oct 2005 07:15:54 GMT
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Robert Moss wrote:

> Reimar Bauer wrote:

>>

>> a=create_Struct('test',1)

>> a=0

>>

>> or

>>

>> dummy=temporary

```
>>> dummy=temporary(a)
>>>
>>
>> dummy = temporary( a ) does not free any memory. It simply renames the
>> variable that contains the structure. Setting a to zero certainly does
>> work.
>>
>>
>> --
>> Robert Moss, PhD
>
>
> But, if you place dummy=temporary(a) in a procedure, it does free up
> memory - see DF's tip at
> http://www.dfanning.com/tips/variable\_undefine.html
>
> Andrew
>
```

The correct command is:
dummy=size(temporary(a))
that deallocate memory.

Armando
