
Subject: Need ideas for a data structure

Posted by [CroucAR1](#) on Wed, 02 Nov 1994 23:37:56 GMT

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I'm trying to devise a way of dealing with a bunch of data items which will consist of a fixed number of header fields and a widely varying number of data entries. For one such item, an anonymous structure seems appropriate, but I don't see how I can generalize this to an array.

If I define an array of structures based on the largest array (which I won't know ahead of time anyway), I'll waste a huge amount of memory.

I thought of building an array of pointers to anonymous structures, but the structures seem too anonymous for this to work.

Since I will be pulling the data from a large database, I could write the data to a file, and let the processing programs read the file and define structures on the fly, but this seems pretty inefficient.

Any better ideas would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Art Croucher Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab

CroucAR1@subtech1.spacenet.jhuapl.edu

PS: I'm bi - it needs to work with both IDL and PV-Wave
