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Subject: Re: printing an array from pointers  
Posted by [bing hu](#) on Tue, 28 Mar 2006 08:22:10 GMT  
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```
openw,lun,'t3.txt',/get_lun
for i=0,9 do begin
etc...
arr=(some 1 by 8 vector)
printf,lun,arr(i)
endfor
free_lun,lun
end
```

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this code may help u.

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Subject: Re: printing an array from pointers  
Posted by [peter.albert@gmx.de](#) on Tue, 28 Mar 2006 13:30:50 GMT  
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Hi Eli,

if your goal really is to just create the 10x8 array via the loop and then print the complete array, I wouldn't use pointers. A simple

```
arr = fltarr(10,8)
for i = 0,9 do begin
...
  arr[i,*] = (some 1 by 8 vector)
endfor
```

```
print, arr
```

will do the trick.

If you really want to use the pointer array, you have to manually concatenate the individual vectors like

```
print, transpose([[*ptr[0]], [*ptr[1]], ..., [*ptr[9]]])
```

which is far from being elegant and most likely will waste some memory. Not really a problem with 10x8 entries, but there is probably more to come?

While you think over it, why not completely re-thinking the problem and trying to avoid the for-loop at all :-)?

Cheers,

Peter

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Subject: Re: printing an array from pointers

Posted by [bressert@gmail.com](mailto:bressert@gmail.com) on Wed, 29 Mar 2006 05:08:40 GMT

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Hi Peter,

Thanks for the tip on `fltarr`, worked like a gem. This is my first project in IDL and I have a lot to cover still. When I initially made the current program I was used to loops and realized towards the end that using arrays is much more efficient. For the next script, I will try that out.

Cheers,

Eli

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Subject: Re: printing an array from pointers

Posted by [bressert@gmail.com](mailto:bressert@gmail.com) on Wed, 29 Mar 2006 07:55:46 GMT

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Hi Peter,

Another question, since I have ran into a new bump. Is there a way to say

```
arr = fltarr(A,8)
```

where A is a number that fluctuates? So rather than stating that arr is A rows long, it is a number determined by the total output of the for loop? For example,

```
arr = fltarr(150,8)
```

will be sufficient in gathering all the 'for' outputs, but I will have trailing zeros that have not been assigned an output value. Using `UNIQ` or an 'if' to get rid of the zeros in the array does not work, since some of the output from the 'for' loop is zero. This was the original reason why I used the pointers, since there was no requirement of predetermination of the number of rows. Any suggestions or ideas would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again for the help.

Cheers,

Eli

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