
Subject: new to IDL - question about modularity
Posted by [Josh](#) on Fri, 22 Jun 2007 22:48:49 GMT
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despite having five manuals on IDL in front of me, I'm having some trouble with writing modular code. I think it lies in my lack of understanding of the structure, but hopefully it's a simple issue...

I'm using IDL 6.3, and have written a single .pro file that looks like,

```
pro xxx
...
end
```

```
pro yyy
...
end
```

```
pro zzz
...
end
```

in an effort to break up the tasks to be done. However, within the zzz procedure I would like to access an array that was built in the xxx procedure. I realize that's not possible, and was hoping for some guidance as to a better way to do this.

Thanks!

Subject: Re: new to IDL - question about modularity
Posted by [swingnut](#) on Wed, 27 Jun 2007 20:56:40 GMT
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The best approach depends on what ELSE the xxx procedure is doing. On the one hand, xxx could be building xxx as one of multiple tasks, in which case xxx could well be left alone except for adding an argument that will have the array, or a structure containing the array in one of its fields. On the other hand, if xxx doesn't do anything but build the array, it really would be handier to make it a function. On the other other hand, if, for example, xxx initializes a whole bunch of variables, I'd recommend going changing xxx to be a function that returns a structure, one of whose fields contains this array you want for zzz. I have to say, putting it in a structure ain't a bad way to go -- I have a template for plotting code that uses a couple of structures (one of which is generated using FSC_Color, one of which contains estimated bin sizes for some satellite data generated using

the header data for the satellite records I use); these structures really make it easier to do some things and to pass a collection of different types of data back and forth as a unit.

Making a structure is easy, you just put strings and variables together in a certain format: {tag, variable}, or, {first tag, first variable, second tag, second variable, ...}, where each tag will be the name used to access the value stored in that field. To get at values in the fields, you just store the structure in a variable and use the variable's name with a certain operator and a tag name:

```
myStruct={"tagOne", firstVariable, "tagTwo", secondVariable, ...}  
print, myStruct.tagOne
```

It can get a lot more complicated than this, but that's really not an issue at this point based on the info you've provided.

Here's a couple of handy links about structures in IDL.

http://www.dfanning.com/tips/recursive_struct_tags.html
http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/1bca12b02ac21459/9ec919cd5115345d

On Jun 22, 5:48 pm, Josh <joshuamonta...@gmail.com> wrote:
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> trouble with writing modular code. I think it lies in my lack of
> understanding of the structure, but hopefully it's a simple issue...
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> xxx procedure. I realize that's not possible, and was hoping for some
> guidance as to a better way to do this.
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> Thanks!

Subject: Re: New to IDL

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Jun 2013 22:15:27 GMT

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saroj thapa writes:

> I have a hdf file that has 6 different layers such as LAI, FPAR, LAI and FPAR and so on. Can any body suggest me how to i extract these layers seperatly using idl code, after seperating those layers how do i mosaic the similar layers such as LAI with LAI and FPAR with FPAR, and Finally sub-setting those mosiac image to my study site. I have huge number of images so i want to use scripting. If any body can help pls help me with basics and code. Thanks

I suppose it is time for our periodic reminder on how to ask a question on a technical forum that is likely to get answered:

<http://www.catb.org/esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

If we start with basics, then I suggest we start with a link to where we might find a file like this one, so we can figure out what in the world you are talking about. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: New to IDL

Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Thu, 06 Jun 2013 14:47:44 GMT

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On 05/06/13 23:22, saroj thapa wrote:

> I have a hdf file that has 6 different layers ...

Is it a version 5 file? Then I would use the H5_PARSE function with the /READ_DATA parameter on the hdf file, and then explore the nested structures that it delivers.

chl
