
Subject: Re: Pass Pointer through procedures
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 09 Aug 2007 13:04:10 GMT
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payon@gmx.de writes:

- > what is the simplest way to pass pointers through procedures? I
- > couldn't find anything which explain it well. Ok, I read some
- > different things about pointers and they weren't helpful.

You are reading the wrong things. Try this:

http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/pointers.html

Pointers are nothing more or less than IDL variables. While it is true that the thing the pointer points to is stored in a global memory location, the pointer itself is a local variable and must be treated as such.

And you are also correct that if you are going to use Common blocks, there is no advantage to pointers, unless the thing you are pointing to will be changing in the course of the IDL session.

The usual way to pass variables among procedures and functions is via positional or keyword parameters.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Pass Pointer through procedures
Posted by [payon](#) on Thu, 09 Aug 2007 14:11:43 GMT
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Oh thanks Mr. Fanning for your answer.
Well maybe I really read the wrong sources.
But now I tried a look in your book. and I found how to pass variables through procedures.
But I have a small problem, like you described it with the example of the image which is resized.
Of course, this works, but only if the image variable was defined

before the procedure was started. So After the procedure was executed, the image variable was changed by through the procedure and could be read by other procedures.

But my problem is, just again a small example

i start a procedure like

```
pro imageopen, image
image=fltarr(300,300)
image=openfunction()
end
```

So here in this small procedure the variable is first defined in the procedure itself. So it just should have the function as a output variable, not as input variable-

but the problem is, when i execute the procedure with
IDL> imageopen

and then try to open the image
IDL> tvscl, image

He can't find the variable. So my question is. Can i just pass variables, when I used them also as input variables, so when i defined them before i called the procedure?

Like

```
IDL>image=fltarr(300,300)
IDL>imageopen, image
IDL>tvscl, image
```

?

greetings

martin

Subject: Re: Pass Pointer through procedures
Posted by [payon](#) on Thu, 09 Aug 2007 14:19:31 GMT
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Oh sorry, sorry, i made a small mistake, even if i didn't define the variable before i call my procedure,

i also have to call it like
IDL> imageopen, image

So now it works.. Ok, this was the most important thing. I think, when
i could pass variables, it's also the same with pointers. I will try

So thanks a lot!!

greetings

martin
