
Subject: Re: [Q] extracting value from a structure ...

Posted by [Thomas A. McGlynn](#) on Thu, 10 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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dEdmundson@Bigfoot.com wrote:

```
>
> Consider the following:
>
>     r = {name: 'john', age=18}
>     s = 'age'
>
> Given the string s, is there an easy way to
> extract the value of the corresponding tag
> in r? s is not known at compile time so
> the trivial r.age reference is not possible.
> My current solution is:
>
>     command = 'v=r.'+s
>     execute(command)
>     print, 'age=',v
>
> but this is slow because of the run time
> compilation of 'command'. Surely there
> is an easier way ...
>
> Cheers,
> Darran.
>
```

Sure. Try something like

```
w = where(tag_names(r) eq strupcase(s))
if (w(0) ne -1) then print, 'age=',r.(w(0))
```

If you're doing this a lot you'll want to store
the tag_names array somewhere.

Regards,
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