
Subject: Re: Need prog to give size of a structure in bytes

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 20 Nov 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Joe Means (means@fsl.orst.edu) writes:

> I need prog to give size of a structure in bytes, and I don't find one in the
> IDL 5.1 distribution. Has anyone else written one?

I haven't written one, but here is how I might do it.

The "help" information contains the size of the structure in bytes. I might capture this help information and parse the information out of it. I'm not sure, however, if this is the *actually* size of the structure (taking into account byte boundaries, etc.) or just the number of bytes in the fields of the structure. Anyway, to get the info, I would do this:

```
Help, struct, /Structure, Output=structInfo  
stuffIWant = structInfo[0]  
lengthInBytes = Parselt(stuffIWant)
```

I'll leave the Parselt routine as an exercise for the reader. ;-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. RSI warns you that following the instructions above may lead to heartache. I echo their comments.

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