
Subject: Re: deleting structure element

Posted by [Alex Schuster](#) on Fri, 28 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>> Bernard Puc (bpuc@va.aetc.com) writes:

>>

>>> Is there a neat, clever way to "delete" an element from a structure?

> On further (and more sober) reflection I would probably

> answer like this:

>

> No way, no how, if you have a named structure. If you

> have an anonymous structure you *could* (under extreme

> duress) simply redefine the structure without the

> *&%%\$^ field:

>

> struct = { a:0, b:0, c:0}

> struct = { a:struct.a, b:struct.b }

I once wrote a routine for that purpose (attached). It replaces an element (tag) of a structure by another element or deletes it. Which doesn't work for the first element, well, if anyone wants to fix this...

```
struct = { a:0, b:0, c:0
```

```
replace_tag, struct, 'c', " ; deletes tag c
```

or:

```
replace_tag, struct, 'c', 'd', 100 ; replaces tag c with d (an int  
with a value of 100)
```

Alex

--

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PGP Key available

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```
;++
```

```
; NAME:
```

```
; REPLACE_TAG
```

```
;
```

```
; PURPOSE:
```

```
; Replaces a tag in a structure by another
```

```
;
```

```
; CALLING:
```

```
; replace_tag, struct, old_tag, new_tag, value
```

```
;
```

```
; INPUTS:
```

```
; struct - the structure to be changed
```

```
; old_tag - name of the tag to be changed
```

```

; new_tag - name of the new tag
;   If set to "", old_tag is deleted from the structure
; value - value of the new tag
;
;
; RESTRICTIONS:
; Does not work with named structures
;
;
; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
;   Alex Schuster, MPIfnF, 8/97 - Written
;-

```

```

pro replace_tag, struct, old_tag, new_tag, value

```

```

tags = tag_names( struct )

```

```

pos = (where( tags eq strupcase( old_tag ) ))(0)
if ( pos eq -1L ) then begin
  print, 'Error: Tag ', old_tag, ' not in struct.'
  return
endif

```

```

if ( ( pos eq 0 ) and ( new_tag ne "" ) ) then begin
  new_struct = create_struct( new_tag, value )
endif else begin
  new_struct = create_struct( tags(0), struct.(0) )
  for i = 1, pos-1 do $
    new_struct = create_struct( new_struct, tags(i), struct.(i) )
  if ( new_tag ne "" ) then $
    new_struct = create_struct( new_struct, new_tag, value )
  endelse
  for i = pos+1, n_elements( tags )-1 do $
    new_struct = create_struct( new_struct, tags(i), struct.(i) )

```

```

struct = new_struct

```

```

end

```

File Attachments

1) [replace_tag.pro](#), downloaded 168 times
