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Subject: Re: indexing over structure tags  
Posted by [Vapuser](#) on Thu, 19 Apr 2001 17:36:59 GMT  
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Randall Skelton <[rhskelet@atm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rhskelet@atm.ox.ac.uk)> writes:

```
> Hello,  
>  
> Imagine someone has a structure of structures...  
>  
> ; define the basic structure for each  
> sm_struc = {basic_struct, comment: ' ', values: fltarr(nlev)}  
>  
> ; define the large structure  
> data = {big_struct, so4: sm_struc, co2: sm_struc, hcl: sm_struc}  
>  
> The IDL manual describes how to make an array of the tags in a structure  
> using:  
>  
> ; get the names of the tags  
> names = tag_names(data)  
>  
> so that names = [so4, co2, hcl].  
>  
> That is all fine. But is it possible to index over the tag names with a  
> for-loop?  
>  
> i.e. for i=0, n_elements(names)-1 do data.names[i].values = i  
>                                ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^  
  
>  
> where IDL determines what the appropriate label 'data.name[i].values' is.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Randall  
>
```

data.(i) to iterate over that tags of data, and  
data.(i).(j) to iterate over the tags of data.(i)

If each tag is an array, rather than a scalar structure instance, you  
might (probably?) have to pull it out, like this

```
IDL> junk={foo, a:0, b:0l, c:0.0}  
IDL> bar={bar, a:replicate({foo},3),b:replicate({foo},4)}  
IDL> help,bar,/struct  
** Structure BAR, 2 tags, length=84:  
 A      STRUCT -> FOO Array[3]
```

B STRUCT -> FOO Array[4]

```
IDL> .run
- FOR i=0,1 DO BEGIN
-   FOR j=0,2 DO BEGIN
-     tmp=bar.(i).(j) ;<--- I couldn't find a way to do this inline,
;                   ; but there might be one that I'm missing
-     FOR k=0,n_elements(tmp)-1 DO tmp[k]=(2^(i+1))*(3^(j+1))+k
-     bar.(i).(j)=tmp
-   endfor
- endfor
- end
% Compiled module: $MAIN$.
IDL> print,bar
{
  a = {    6      18    54.0000}
    {    7      19    55.0000}
    {    8      20    56.0000}

  b = {    12      36   108.000}
    {    13      37   109.000}
    {    14      38   110.000}
    {    15      39   111.000}

}
```

whd

--  
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