
Subject: Re: getting structure elements by tag name string

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 08 Jan 2003 17:41:37 GMT

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s@visita2.die.upm.es wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> I try to use a structure as a bad substitute for a hash map (hashs or
> associative lists or dictionaries or anything similar don't exist in
> IDL, do they?)
>
> Suppose I have a structure like this:
> s = {a:7,b:9}
>
> and I have a variable that contains a tag name:
> tag = 'a'
>
> Now I want to put the value of the structures element with name tag into a
> new variable called value:
> value = s.tag
>
> This doesn't work of course, because tag is undefined for this structure.
> But how can I get this the elements value?

I often use followings:

```
value=s.(0)
```

for example is symbolic the firs tag of s.

You can extend this a bit more with a function of our library

```
value=s.(tag_position(s,'a'))
```

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/tag_position.tar.gz

or as idl5.5 binary

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/tag_position.sav

>
> I found a somewhat crude way:
> res = execute('value =' + 's.' + tag)
>
> That works, but it's really ugly. Is there a better way to do this?

>

> And, is there a way to delete an element from a structure?

Yes,

therefore we use delete_tag

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/delete_tag.tar.gz

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/delete_tag.sav

and just for interest you can add or replace or rename tags on each of the structure levels.

For further routines and licensing please have a look at

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

best regards

Reimar

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

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