
Subject: Structure Creation with Execute

Posted by [msreeve](#) on Tue, 11 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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I am reading in an HDF file containing 30-40 Scientific Data Sets of varying size and rank. The sizes are not known ahead of time. I would like to read each data set into an element of an anonymous structure and output that from the function. Currently I construct a structure definition string by going through the HDF file and collecting the dimensions of each SDS. I then execute it, to define the structure (with tag names HDF0, HDF1, ...), and then make another pass through the file to read the data into the structure.

This works well if there are only a few data sets in the file, but if the structure definition string exceeds 131 characters (IDL's ridiculously-low maximum for an EXECUTE), the EXECUTE fails. Is there a way around this somehow? Is it possible to append one structure to another (I thought not)? Any suggestions?

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