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Subject: Re: indexing structure of structures  
Posted by [btt](#) on Tue, 18 Jul 2006 12:46:06 GMT  
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phaccount@nycap.rr.com wrote:

> Hello group,  
>  
> I am analyzing a bunch of data from an experimental series. The  
> analysis from each experiment (numbers a,b,c,... etc) is stored in a  
> structure. For reasons that have little to do with foresight and  
> expedience, I decided to store all the individual structures in one  
> large structure (This allows me to add some more fluff).  
>  
> My problem is how to extract the parameter 'a' to plot it. I was  
> hoping that an array indexing method such as  
>  
> outer\_struct.([1,4,8,12]).a  
>  
> would work, but it does not. So I am re-packaging the outer structure  
> as a vector of inner\_structures.  
>  
> Am I missing something in the IDL syntax that would allow me to keep  
> the structure of structures, and vectorially index the substructures?  
>

Hello,

I think you really do want a vector of structures - assuming that each of the structures have the same form. If that is what you want then the notation is very simple. Try the following...

```
vec = REPLICATE($
{NAME: STRING(randomn(n, 1)*100, format = '(I3.3)'), $
DATA: INDGEN(4)}, 5)
help, vec
subvec = vec[2:4]
help, subvec
subname = vec[2:4].name
help, subname
subdata = vec[2:4].data
help, subdata
subsubdata = vec[2:4].data[3]
help, subsubdata
```

Cheers,  
Ben

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