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Subject: Re: \_extra

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 22:26:54 GMT

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Dometz writes:

> Is there a way to extract certain parameters by name from \_extra?

You can find the tag or field names in a structure with TAG\_NAMES. So you could check if there was a field named SPY in the structure, like this:

```
index = WHERE(TAG_NAMES(_extra) EQ 'SPY', count)
```

And you could get the value of the SPY keyword like this:

```
IF count GT 0 THEN spy_value = _Extra.(index)
```

But, remember, keywords can be shortened to the fewest number of characters to make them unique keywords, so if you want to find SPY, you might well have to look for "S" and "SP", as well as "SPY". Just hope you don't have to deal with really long keyword names. :-)

Actually, there is a trick that Dave BurrIDGE once taught me that make this simpler. I probably involves STREGEX, but I can't for the life of me think what it was right now. Sorry. :-(

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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