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Subject: accessing structures

Posted by [kachun](#) on Sat, 29 Jun 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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Does anyone know how to access parts of structures in IDL? Looking up the version of IDL, I can type:

```
IDL> print,!version  
{ sparc sunos 3.6.1}
```

I can't directly access the individual components, since a help will give:

```
IDL> help,!version  
<Expression>  STRUCT  = -> !VERSION Array(1)
```

Messier is figuring out what the individual components are called, which will give string outputs:

```
IDL> print,!version.arch  
sparc  
IDL> print,!version.os  
sunos  
IDL> print,!version.release  
3.6.1
```

My question is then how would I pull out what I need to know from !version if I didn't know the names for the individual components (i.e., "!version.arch", "!version.os")? Is there a command that can pull out what I need, like this example below?

```
IDL> print,MYSTERY_COMMAND(!version,0)  
sparc
```

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```
--kachun      +** Center for Astrophysics and Space Astronomy      **+  
               +** University of Colorado, Boulder                **+  
               +** Email: kachun@casa.colorado.edu                 **+  
               +** http://casa.colorado.edu/~kachun                 **+
```