
Subject: Re: determining if a structure has a given tag
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Thu, 18 Jun 2009 00:12:14 GMT
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On Jun 17, 8:09 am, Reimar Bauer <R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:

```
> Jeremy Bailin schrieb:
>
>
>
>> I'm sure there is a simple answer to this, but I can't find it.
>
>> Does someone know of a programmatic way to determine if a given tag is
>> defined in a structure, without resorting to TAG_NAMES (which seems
>> downright ugly). I can do something like
>
>> if n_elements(variable) eq 0
>
>> to determine if a variable has been defined, but to figure out if a
>> structure tag is defined I need to grab a list of all tags?? I guess I
>> want something that's functionally equivalent to:
>
>> if total(tag_names(struct) eq strupcase(tag)) gt 0
>
>> but which doesn't make me shudder. The closest discussion I can find
>> on this is here:
>> http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse\_thread/...
>> ...but most of that focuses on the peculiarities of dealing with
>> _EXTRA, not the more generic case.
>
>> -Jeremy.
>
> Result=is_tag(structure,tagname)
>
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl\_icglib/idl\_source/idl\_html/dba...
>
> cheers
> Reimar
```

So the basic answer appears to be "no, you can't do it without using TAG_NAMES, but you can encapsulate it inside another function so you don't notice." ;-)

-Jeremy.
