
Subject: determining if a structure has a given tag

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 17 Jun 2009 04:25:05 GMT

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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/thread/2f2c38c0e9f0ee63/97dd066b2cc7af82?lnk=gst&q=structure+tag+defined#97dd066b2cc7af82

...but most of that focuses on the peculiarities of dealing with _EXTRA, not the more generic case.

-Jeremy.
