
Subject: read XML with IDL

Posted by [sh](#) on Wed, 14 Jul 2010 09:59:57 GMT

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Hello together,

I already searched in the archive, but I didn't find a clear answer.

Every time you want to read .xml files, you have to write your own parser (e.g. .edit xml_to_struct__define.pro) right?

But is there a possibility to build up a struct automatically? E.g. the input .xml file

```
<Solar_System>
  <Planet NAME='Mercury'>
    <Orbit UNITS='kilometers' TYPE='ulong64'>579100000</Orbit>
    <Period UNITS='days' TYPE='float'>87.97</Period>
    <Satellites TYPE='int'>0</Satellites>
  </Planet>
  ...
</Solar_System>
```

output in IDL (structs within a "main" struct) the name of struct and tags depends on the name of elements and the attributes

```
solar_system={solar_system,planet:{planet,orbit:
{orbit,units:'kilometers',type:'ulong64',value:'579100000'}, period:
{period,units:'days',type:'float',value:'87.97'},satellites:
{satellites,type:'int',value:'0'}}}
```

```
print, solar_system.planet.orbit
{ kilometers ulong64 579100000}
```

```
print, solar_system.planet.orbit.value
579100000
```

My questions are now: Should I write my own parser? Should I wait for IDL8, maybe there are more adv. features for XML? Or does someone have already such a routine?

thanks,
Sebastian
