
Subject: Re: help & help,/structure

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 13 Aug 2010 20:56:46 GMT

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On 8/13/10 2:37 PM, Heinz Stege wrote:

> On Fri, 13 Aug 2010 11:59:58 -0700 (PDT), wlandsman wrote:

>

>> A documented new feature of HELP,/STRUCTURE in IDL 8.0 has caused me
>> a minor annoyance: According to the online help:

>>

>> "If a single argument is provided to HELP, and it is a structure,
>> then HELP will automatically display the structure information without
>> having to set the /STRUCTURE keyword."

>>

>> But I think this means that I can no longer use HELP to determine
>> the number of elements in a structure array. In IDL 7.1 I could
>> write

>>

>> IDL> print,!version

>> { x86 linux unix linux 7.1.1 Aug 19 2009 32 64}

>> IDL> help,tab

>> TAB STRUCT =-> <Anonymous> Array[58]

>>

>> to determine that it has 58 elements. But in IDL 8.0, I get
>> information about the structure but no information about the number of
>> elements it contains... I have to print,N_Elements(tab) . --Wayne

>>

>> IDL> print,!version

>> { x86 linux unix linux 8.0 Jun 18 2010 32 64}

>>

>> IDL> help,tab

>> ** Structure<a065d74>, 21 tags, length=168, data length=162, refs=1:

>> OBS_ID STRING '00031688021 '

>> EXTNAME STRING 'uu297081092I '

>> ASPCORR INT 0

>> FILTER STRING 'U '

>> TSTART DOUBLE 2.9708109e+08

>

> I had that problem too, played a while around, and found that
> help,names='tab' is doing the trick.

>

> Shorter, but a little bit ugly: help,tab,"

>

> help,tab,structures=0 unexpectedly does not work ;-)

>

> Would really be nice, to have the dimension information within the
> header line of the help,tab output.

Yes, it seems like /STRUCTURES should only automatically kick in is if the only variable passed to HELP is a structure *and* only has a single element. IDL 8.0.1?

Mike

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