
Subject: Re: help & help,/structure

Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Fri, 13 Aug 2010 20:37:23 GMT

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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.
