On Sep 16, 3:28 pm, Michael Williams <mjwilli...@gmail.com> wrote:
> I have an array of structures:
>
> IDL> x = {a: 1, b:2, c: indgen(5)}
> IDL> xx = replicate(x, 10)
>
> In this case, I want to rename the 'b' tag to 'foo' and the 'c' tag to
> bar. But I want a function that works for arbitrary tag names. I have
> readhttp://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/addfield.html, which describes
> how to add a field to an array of structures using struct_assign. So
> far I have the following function, which seems like it's headed in the
> right direction: it will add the foo and bar tags. But (i) it only
> works if you're renaming exactly two tags because of the create_struct
> call (ii) it doesn't copy the data in the old tags to the new tags and
> (iii) it doesn't delete the old tags, which is necessary for true
> "replacement".
>
> Can anyone see how to fix these problems so that the function works
> for arbitrarily many tag names, copies the data (ideally without using
> execute statements, which is the only way I can think of doing it),
> and the old fields are deleted? Or is there another solution
> altogether?

Any reason not to do it with hashes and avoid all those troubles?