
Subject: Re: read a C written binary file with IDL
Posted by [Bill Nel](#) on Fri, 10 Feb 2012 15:12:35 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Feb 9, 11:56 pm, Manodeep Sinha <manod...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Hi,
>
> This is because C pads the structure to produce alignments. Under
> 'normal' operations, you would expect MyStruct to be 20 bytes,
> however, if you do a sizeof(struct MyStruct), you will probably see
> that the size is 24. (And you can enable the warning for gcc by using
> the compile time option -Wpadded).

The N_TAGS() function has LENGTH and DATA_LENGTH keywords:

```
IDL> print, n_tags(mystruct, /length)
      24
IDL> print, n_tags(mystruct, /data_length)
      20
```

I mention it because one might not think to look at the N_TAGS
function
for this sort of information.

--Wayne
