
Subject: Re: indexing a structure in a list

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 05 Feb 2014 17:00:44 GMT

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Helder writes:

```
> I've got the feeling this should work, but for some reason it isn't.
> So here is some code to test the problem with the errors describe in it:
>
> PRO testStrutRef
> Compile_Opt idl2
> a = list(findgen(10), /extract)
> a[4] = {value:3.0}
> help, a[4], /struct
> ;a[4].value = 4.0      ;won't work: % Attempt to store into an expression: Structure reference.
> ;(a[4]).value = 4.0    ;won't work: % Attempt to store into an expression: Structure reference.
> ;((a[4]).value = 4.0   ;won't work: % Attempt to store into an expression: Structure reference.
> struct = a[4]
> struct.value = 4.0
> a[4] = struct          ;works, but not really straight forward...
> print, a
> END
>
> It seems like I can't address a structure element of a list directly.
> Did I misplace my parenthesis? Is there a less cumbersome workaround?
```

Yeah, don't know. I'm no expert, but I'm not surprised lists and structures don't play well together. Have you thought about a hash instead?

```
IDL> a = list(findgen(10), /extract)
IDL> a[4] = hash('value', 3.0)
IDL> (a[4])['value'] = 4.0
IDL> print, a[4]
value:      4.00000
```

Cheers,

David

--

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
