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Subject: help & help,/structure

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Fri, 13 Aug 2010 18:59:58 GMT

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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
```

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Subject: Re: help & help,/structure

Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 06 Apr 2011 00:31:40 GMT

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On Apr 5, 9:14 pm, Demitri wrote:

> I've just been bitten by this new "feature". I have a script that calls  
> 'help', but now with 8.0 it dumps the full structure to the screen.  
> This output is longer than the screen so the effective result is that  
> my script stops until I manually hit a spacebar to continue. Truly  
> annoying when I had to do this about 200 times today.  
>  
> Can I turn this off? Barring this, is there a way I can code this so

> that it will work as before if I run IDL 7 or 8?

help,whatever,structure=0

?

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Subject: Re: help & help,/structure

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Wed, 06 Apr 2011 00:40:23 GMT

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Originally posted by: Demitri

Thanks for the quick reply! That suggestion was made earlier in this thread (from last August), but it doesn't seem to work. (I just tried it now too.)

```
s = create_struct('a', 1, 'b', 'xxx')
```

```
help, s
```

```
help, s, structure=0
```

Cheers,  
Demitri

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On 2011-04-05 20:31:40 -0400, Paulo Penteado <pp.penteado@gmail.com> said:

> On Apr 5, 9:14iġ ½pm, Demitri wrote:

>> I've just been bitten by this new "feature". I have a script that calls

>> 'help', but now with 8.0 it dumps the full structure to the screen.

>> This output is longer than the screen so the effective result is that

>> my script stops until I manually hit a spacebar to continue. Truly

>> annoying when I had to do this about 200 times today.

>>

>> Can I turn this off? Barring this, is there a way I can code this so

>> that it will work as before if I run IDL 7 or 8?

>

> help,whatever,structure=0

>

> ?

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Subject: Re: help & help,/structure

Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Wed, 06 Apr 2011 08:40:30 GMT

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On Tue, 5 Apr 2011, Demitri wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I've just been bitten by this new "feature". I have a script that calls  
> 'help', but now with 8.0 it dumps the full structure to the screen. This  
> output is longer than the screen so the effective result is that my script  
> stops until I manually hit a spacebar to continue. Truly annoying when I had  
> to do this about 200 times today.  
>  
> Can I turn this off? Barring this, is there a way I can code this so that it  
> will work as before if I run IDL 7 or 8?  
>

!MORE=0

regards,  
Lajos

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Subject: Re: help & help,/structure  
Posted by [Mark Piper](#) on Wed, 06 Apr 2011 14:24:47 GMT  
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This is fixed in 8.0.1. Please grab the update from the ittviz website.

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Subject: Re: help & help,/structure  
Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 06 Apr 2011 14:52:11 GMT  
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On Apr 6, 11:24 am, Mark Piper <mpi...@ittvis.com> wrote:  
> This is fixed in 8.0.1. Please grab the update from the ittviz website.

This explains why structure=0 works for me.

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Subject: Re: help & help,/structure  
Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Wed, 06 Apr 2011 18:15:16 GMT  
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Originally posted by: Demitri

On 2011-04-06 10:24:47 -0400, Mark Piper <mpiper@ittvis.com> said:

> This is fixed in 8.0.1. Please grab the update from the ittviz website.

Thanks all! I'll grab the update.

Cheers,  
Demitri

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