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Subject: Looping through structures

Posted by [wdolan](#) on Tue, 01 Mar 2016 17:53:17 GMT

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So I am analyzing a years worth of data, which I got in the form of structures for each month.

For example

StrucJan has arrays (is tags the correct word?) called, lon, lat, gas\_conc (we are measuring gas concentration). And StrucFeb also has the tags lon, lat, and gas\_conc. Each month is in the same format.

I've got a bunch of code that does calculations with the January data. But I'm not sure how to loop over it so it does all the same calculations with the February data, and then the march, april, may etc. data (all of which are in the same format with the exact same tags).

Hopefully this makes sense!

Any ideas?

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Subject: Re: Looping through structures

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 01 Mar 2016 18:16:45 GMT

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Hello,

On 03/01/16 12:53, Wayana Dolan wrote:

> So I am analyzing a years worth of data, which I got in the form of  
> structures for each month.  
>  
> For example  
>  
> StrucJan has arrays (is tags the correct word?) called, lon, lat,  
> gas\_conc (we are measuring gas concentration). And StrucFeb also has  
> the tags lon, lat, and gas\_conc. Each month is in the same format.  
>  
> I've got a bunch of code that does calculations with the January  
> data. But I'm not sure how to loop over it so it does all the same  
> calculations with the February data, and then the march, april, may  
> etc. data (all of which are in the same format with the exact same  
> tags).  
>  
> Hopefully this makes sense!

Some methods are below...(not sure anonymous structures are required or not)

```
IDL> structjan={lat:1.0, lon:2.0, gas_conc:380.0}
```

```
IDL> structfeb={lat:3.0, lon:4.0, gas_conc:394.0}  
IDL> structmar={lat:5.0, lon:6.0, gas_conc:403.0}
```

\* Array

```
IDL> structyear = [structjan, structfeb, structmar]
```

```
IDL> help, structyear  
STRUCTYEAR  STRUCT  = -> <Anonymous> Array[3]
```

```
IDL> help, structyear[2].gas_conc  
<Expression>  FLOAT  =    403.000
```

\* Hash

```
IDL> structyear=hash()  
IDL> structyear['jan']=structjan  
IDL> structyear['feb']=structfeb  
IDL> structyear['mar']=structmar
```

```
IDL> help, structyear['mar'].gas_conc  
<Expression>  FLOAT  =    403.000
```

\* List

```
IDL> structyear=list()  
IDL> structyear.add, structjan  
IDL> structyear.add, structfeb  
IDL> structyear.add, structmar
```

```
IDL> help, structyear[2].gas_conc  
<Expression>  FLOAT  =    403.000
```

The usefulness of these to you depends mostly (I think) on how your processing code cycles through the months. E.g. array and year assume jan-dec is 0-11. Hash assumes a key (doesn't have to be a month string, can be an integer number too.)

cheers,

paulv

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