
Subject: Re: Two new tools

Posted by [davidf](#) on Sun, 29 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Martin Schultz (mgs@io.harvard.edu) writes:

```
> today I finally got around improving my concept of displaying help
> information on self-written (and library!) routines. Please find
> attached
> function routine_name.pro - which returns the name of the caller
> routine
> and
> procedure usage.pro - which displays the "user-relevant" portion of
> the IDL program header (with minor modifications).
>
> The idea of these routines is to prevent wrist injury from too much
> double typing in constructs like:
>   if (keyword_set(help)) then begin
>       print ; all the stuff that's in the header anyway
>   endif
```

Thanks for this, Martin. And although I hate to mention it, your Usage program duplicates functionality that is already there in IDL in the form of Doc_Library. Yours does have the significant advantage of having 6 fewer letters to type in the name. :-)

I do like the touch of getting the name of the program off the stack. I never thought of doing that before.

Let's just say that great minds think alike. :-)

Cheers,

David

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