
Subject: Re: Global variables and command line
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 17 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Daniel SAGE wrote:

```
>
> Hello,
>
> I would like use the variables created in the input command line inside
> the procedures/functions. But in my application where I automatically
> generate IDL code, I can't use the common mechanism or passing by
> parameters.
>
> pro run
>   resolve_routine, "test"
>   call_procedure, "test"
> end
>
> pro test
> common var
>   print, v1
>   print, v2
> end
>
> IDL> common var, v1
> IDL> v1=111
> IDL> v2=222
> % Compiled module: RUN.
> % Compiled module: TEST.
> IDL> run
> % Procedure was compiled while active: RUN. Returning.
> % Compiled module: TEST.
>   111
> % PRINT: Variable is undefined: V2.
> % Execution halted at: TEST          10 HD:Desktop Folder:test.pro
>
> %           $MAIN$
>
> How is it possible to make V2 visible inside the test procedure when I
> can't pass the parameters with the run procedure ?
>
> Thanks
>
```

Your problem is that you define your common block only with v1 - and once it is defined, you can't change it!!

The above example will work if you type common var,v1,v2 on the command line. However, a better approach would probably be to call EXECUTE (or

CALL_PROCEDURE, CALL_FUNCTION) to "execute" your procedure or function that you generate automatically. There should always be some way of parameter passing. Even if you don't know how many variables you will need in advance neither their name, you could still construct a structure and pass that into the function/procedure. I have a CHKSTRU function in my library (html below) which you can use to see if a certain structure tag is defined.

Hope this helps,
Martin

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