
Subject: Re: How to tell if I'm running IDL or PV-WAVE
Posted by [thompson](#) on Mon, 31 Jan 1994 15:19:04 GMT
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ft@maxwell.ccs.att.com (Frederick True) writes:

> In article <1994Jan28.034743.14539@bnlux1.bnl.gov> rivers@bnlux1.bnl.gov (mark rivers) writes:

>> Is there a way to find out from within a procedure whether one is running
>> PV-WAVE or IDL? I need to call LINKNLOAD if I am running PV-WAVE or
>> CALL_EXTERNAL if I am running IDL. The !version system variable doesn't
>> seem to have this information.

> Interesting point. There seems to be no system variable which tells you
> "Wave" or "IDL", or even the vendor name ("RSI" or "VNI"). Without doing
> some hack like trying to find a system variable which is only found in one
> of these packages, I'd use something along the lines of:

> wver = call_unix("printenv","WAVE_VERSION")

> Then, test wver for a null value (= running IDL) or a string value (= running
> Wave). I've never used IDL, so I can't assure you this will work there (it
> works in Wave). Nor am I sure what the analog would be in VMS; I assume
> "call_unix" is not part of the VMS version - but there must be some
> mechanism for performing an OS command.

This wouldn't work in IDL. The equivalent statement would be

```
wver = getenv("WAVE_VERSION")
```

which would work in either Unix or VMS.

Bill Thompson
