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Subject: Re: undocumented IDL built-in TVRDC  
Posted by [landsman](#) on Fri, 10 Jun 1994 05:21:00 GMT  
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> In article <1994Jun9.182922.21061@noao.edu>,  
> eharold@corona.sunspot.noao.edu (Elliott Harold) wrote:  
>  
>> I recently ran across what appears to be an undocumented built-in  
>> procedure in IDL 3.5 called TVRDC. I can't find a reference to it anywhere,

TVRDC is a synonym for the (documented) CURSOR command. Its origin goes back to 1980's Version 1 IDL when the typical image processing environment was a television display monitor controlled by a Tektronics or VT100 terminal. Version 1 IDL then had a CURSOR command for reading the cursor off of a plot on the Tektronics screen, and a TVRDC command to read the cursor on the television display. In a workstation environment each window can be used for image display or plotting, and the distinction between CURSOR and TVRDC became unnecessary. CURSOR was chosen as the command for newer versions of IDL, however TVRDC remained available as an undocumented synonym. You will find that TVRDC works exactly as documented under CURSOR.

--Wayne Landsman                      [landsman@stars.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:landsman@stars.gsfc.nasa.gov)

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