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Subject: sec : U Re: Ascertaining Keyword Parameters  
Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Thu, 11 Apr 2002 05:37:58 GMT  
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Ted Cary wrote:

>  
> Hello,  
>  
> Is there any way to ask an IDL function or procedure what keyword  
> parameters it accepts? I'd like a function that takes the string name  
> of an IDL procedure and returns a string array containing the names of  
> all accepted keyword parameters--something like the "KEYWORDS\_ACCEPTED"  
> function below.  
>  
> IDL> plotKeywords = KEYWORDS\_ACCEPTED('PLOT')  
> IDL> PRINT, plotKeywords  
> BACKGROUND CHARSIZE CHARTHICK CLIP COLOR FONT LINSTYLE MULTI NOCLIP  
> NOERASE NSUM POSITION....  
>  
> Maybe someone with experience writing IDL system routines knows how to  
> do this?  
>  
> Thanks.

Hi Ted,

Here's some hackware that will return the keywords for user routines already compiled, but not for IDL system routines, not routines using the "hidden" option to the !Compile flag.

Not pretty, but yours to play with...

Andrew

```
PRO Keywords_accepted, routine_name, PROC=proc, FUNC = func
```

```
; 11-Apr-2002 A.D. Cool Assuming a routine is already compiled, return  
the keywords for it.
```

```
;  
; Doesn't work for IDL system routines... ;-(  
;  
; Or for routines compiled with !Compile_opt =  
hidden
```

```
print,'routine_name = ',routine_name
```

```
cmd = 'Help,Name=' + routine_name + $  
' ,Out=KW_Text,/Rout,proc=' + String(proc) + ',func=' +
```

String(func)

```
result = EXECUTE(cmd)
If result EQ 0 Then Begin
  Message,'Error in Keywords_accepted getting Help for ' +
routine_name,/INFO
  RETURN
Endif

; help,Kw_text
; print,KW_text,format='(a)'

rn_len = STRLEN(routine_name)
cmd = 'kw_pos=STRPOS(kw_text(2), "" + routine_name + "")'
result = EXECUTE(cmd)
KW_pos = STRPOS(kw_text(*),routine_name)
KW_pos = WHERE(KW_pos NE -1)
If KW_pos(0) Eq -1 Then Begin
  Message,'No Keywords available for ' + routine_name,/INFO
  RETURN
Endif

; concatenate these lines...

KW_line = KW_text(Kw_pos(0))
Kw_line = STRCOMPRESS(KW_line)
Kw_line = STRMID(KW_line,rn_len+1,STRLEN(KW_line))
upper = WHERE(BYTE(KW_line) GE 65 AND BYTE(KW_line) LE 90)
KW_upper = STRMID(KW_line,upper(0),STRLEN(KW_line))
print,'Keywords = ',KW_upper
```

END

```
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