
Subject: Re: Unsupported keyword on older IDL version
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 29 Jul 2002 15:34:49 GMT
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Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

```
> Another possibility is to use the _EXTRA mechanism:
>
> ;; Assume EXTRA is undefined
> if double(!version.release) GE 5.4 then $
>   extra = {utc: 1}
>   value = systime(_EXTRA=extra)
>
> Anyway you cut it, you will need an IDL version check.
```

I think this might depend on how old a version of IDL you were calling. I don't think _Extra always failed gracefully in the early days, when routines were passed a keyword they didn't understand.

On the other hand, this does have the advantage of running in a run-time version of IDL, whereas the CALL_FUNCTION approach would fail.

Cheers,

David

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