
Subject: Re: How to see if variable is defined?
Posted by [zawodny](#) on Thu, 26 Jan 1995 20:28:27 GMT
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In article <3g8n7i\$ghv@sun2.ruf.uni-freiburg.de> ps@kis.uni-freiburg.de (Peter Suetterlin) writes:
> Mike Schienle (rep2857@sbsun0010.sbrs.hac.com) wrote:
> : IDL> print, var
> : % PRINT: Variable is undefined: VAR.
> : % Execution halted at \$MAIN\$ (PRINT).
> : IDL> print, size(var)
> : 0 0 1
>
> : The first parameter will be a zero if var is undefined.
>
> !!NO
>
> that's wrong:
> IDL> i=1
> IDL> print,size(i)
> 0 2 1
> IDL>
>
> The *second* parameter has to be zero (exactly s(s(0)+1, which defines
> the type of the variable)

I've noticed that this thread has survived longer than I would anticipate from the subject. I have not been following it so, this may have been pointed out already.

I use the following:

```
if(n_elements(var) eq 0) then print,'Variable is undefined'
```

This is much easier to remember and is less code than using SIZE.

--

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