
Subject: Re: Alternative to EXECUTE?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 02 Dec 2003 15:04:18 GMT

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Anne Martel writes:

```
> I've just realised that the IDL Virtual Machine won't work with
> EXECUTE. Does anyone have an alternative for the sort of use described
> below?
>
> I'm using EXECUTE to initialise an object with a set of fields defined
> by the structure info. The number of fields defined in info will vary
> depending on the type of image I'm reading in so I only want to set a
> subset of the fields. I could explicitly test for each tag name but
> that makes it harder to add new fields later and I would end up with a
> very long CASE statement.
>
> pro QmclImage::set_info,info
>   tmp_class = {QmclImage}
>   object_fields = Tag_Names(tmp_class)
>   info_fields = Tag_Names(info)
>   num=n_elements(info_fields)
>   for i = 0,num-1 do begin
>     index = where(strcmp( info_fields[i], object_fields,/F),count)
>     if(count eq 1) then begin
>       str='self.' + info_fields[i] + '= info.' + info_fields[i]
>       ok = execute(str)
>     endif
>   endfor
> end
```

I think I would write the loop like this:

```
FOR j=0,num-1 DO BEGIN
  index = Where(object_fields EQ info_fields[j], count)
  IF count EQ 1 THEN self.(index) = info.(j)
ENDFOR
```

Cheers,

David

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