
Subject: Re: string animations etc.

Posted by [MKatz843](#) on Mon, 20 Sep 2004 22:03:23 GMT

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"Richard G. French" <rfrench@wellesley.edu> wrote in message
news:<BD73940A.3502%rfrench@wellesley.edu>...

> Neat! But 'defined()' does not seem to be a built-in IDL function (I cobbled
> one together to get this to run), and I think the line should read

>

> If not defined(name0) then name0="

>

Sorry about that! Here are two handy functions I use. The first is
defined() and the second is defined_and_equals(). The second one uses
the first one, and it lets you catch two birds with one net. Trust me,
it comes in handy sometimes.

```
;+
;-----
; 12/04/94
; IDL function: defined.pro
; For a given input variable, this function returns
;   1b if the variable is defined
;   0b if the variable is undefined
;-----
;-
```

```
function defined, a
return, (size(a, /type) NE 0)
end
```

```
;+
;-----
; 12/11/03
; IDL function: defined_and_equals.pro
;
; This boolean function does two things.
; The doesn't know if the argument is defined, but want to know:
; if it IS defined, then does it equal arg2?
;-----
;-
```

```
function defined_and_equals, a, b
return, defined(a) ? (a EQ b) : 0b
end
```

