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Subject: alternative to execute

Posted by [greg michael](#) on Tue, 31 Jan 2006 18:43:04 GMT

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I'm trying to think up a good way to implement a user-defined function which would run in the IDL VM. The function might involve any of about 300 similar 2-d arrays, each of which is quite expensive to generate. So I thought to obtain the function as a string, scan it to see which arrays are needed, generate them, and then apply the function with 'execute'. But 'execute' is excluded from the VM.

A typical function might look like:

```
result = b123 / b100 - .9 * b050 / b035
```

Without execute, I can only think to attempt to write some kind of arithmetic interpreter. Would anyone have a suggestion for a way to get IDL to do this more directly?

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