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Subject: Re: Can I do this with call\_procedure/call\_function, or do I have to use execute?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 18 Sep 2006 21:11:50 GMT

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Braedley writes:

> I posted this recently in IDL only group, but to no avail, so I'll try  
> here now.

Yeah, the Interface Definition Language people don't know squat about IDL. :-)

> In a widget program, I have a pseudo command line. When an event is  
> triggered for this command line, the contents of the line are passed to  
> the handler (obviously as a string). That string may contain something  
> like:

>  
>     print, f\_samp  
>

> in which case, I would like the program to display the value for f\_samp  
> in an output text widget, much the same way that entering the same  
> command into the IDLDE command line prints the value to the command  
> output window. The code to do this with execute is fairly easy,  
> namely:

>  
>     executed=execute('widget\_control, output\_text\_widget, \$  
>     /append, set\_value=' + commands[1], 0, 0)  
>

> where commands is the value returned after performing strsplit on the  
> input string with space and comma delimiters (in this case, f\_samp).  
> What I'm wondering is, since I want this particular piece of code to  
> run on a computer with only a copy of the virtual machine installed,  
> can I accomplish the same feat with only using call\_procedure and or  
> call\_function?

> As a side note, the following will not work:

>  
>     call\_procedure, 'widget\_control', output\_text\_widget, \$  
>     /append, set\_value=commands[1]  
>

> That will just print f\_samp, not the value of f\_samp.

You are going to have to obtain the \*value\* of the variable, as you realize. To do that, you are going to have to learn about SCOPE\_VARFETCH and SCOPE\_VARNAME. Here is an article that might help:

[http://www.dfanning.com/tips/access\\_main\\_vars.html](http://www.dfanning.com/tips/access_main_vars.html)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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