
Subject: Re: IDL version

Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Thu, 19 Mar 2009 15:40:19 GMT

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On Mar 19, 11:22 am, llo <bernat.puigdomen...@gmail.com> wrote:

> How can I know which version of IDL is running my program ?

> llo

Hello,

When you start up IDL it will print version info...

```
[Sei:~] Ben% idl
```

```
IDL Version 6.3, Mac OS X (darwin ppc m32). (c) 2006, Research  
Systems, Inc.
```

```
Installation number: 99906.
```

```
Licensed for personal use by Michael Sieracki only.
```

```
All other use is strictly prohibited.
```

To get the version programmatically you can access the "release" tag of the !version system variable.

```
IDL> help, !version,/str
```

```
** Structure !VERSION, 8 tags, length=76, data length=76:
```

```
ARCH      STRING  'ppc'  
OS        STRING  'darwin'  
OS_FAMILY STRING  'unix'  
OS_NAME    STRING  'Mac OS X'  
RELEASE    STRING  '6.3'  
BUILD_DATE STRING  'Mar 23 2006'  
MEMORY_BITS INT      32  
FILE_OFFSET_BITS  
           INT      64
```

You'll see programmers doing stuff like...

```
IDL> if (!version.release LT 7) then print, "old duffer"  
old duffer
```

IDL's string-to-float conversion seems to handle the oddball release format you might see...

```
IDL> if ('7.0.4' LT 7.0) then print, "old duffer"
```

Cheers,

Ben
