pp writes:

> It feels slow to me, too. Also, not much point in keep testing to
> avoid doing things when catch can do both the test and the intended
> operation, and thus might look nicer (if made GOTO-less).
>
> Since call_procedure will do the same search that file_which would,
> using file_which first would mean search twice in the cases the file
> is found. But no disk searches would be done using the help output,
> just a quick string array search.

Well, I might have to code it up and see which is
faster on a day when I'd rather write IDL code than
play tennis. In the meantime, it works, appears
reasonably fast, and is something ugly I can point
to when my grandchildren (some day!) ask me if I
ever wrote ugly IDL code. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")