
Subject: Re: checking the data type in IDL
Posted by [Chris\[6\]](#) on Wed, 09 Sep 2009 08:09:06 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Sep 7, 11:25 pm, Dandelion <dandel...@gmx.com> wrote:
> On Sep 8, 12:30 am, "b.a" <u4565...@anu.edu.au> wrote:
>
>> Hi,
>
>> In the middle of my IDL program, I need to check the type of a
>> variable in order to decide what to do with it. I mean, I have to
>> check whether variable1 is a STRING or FLOAT (for example). Like this:
>
>> IF variable1 'is STRING' do
>> else do ...
>
>> Of course "help, variable1" will not help as it shows the answer on
>> the consol and I can't use it that way. If anybody knows how to do so,
>> please let me know. Thanks.
>
>> Cheers
>
> Use the SIZE function with the TYPE keyword to return the type code
> for an IDL variable. If you search -data type- or -size- in the IDL
> help, you will find more details.
>
> ~D

I also like size(x, /tn), which returns the data type as a word

chris
