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Subject: Re: Reading Arrow keys from keyboard ?  
Posted by [knipp](#) on Fri, 04 Dec 1992 14:26:32 GMT  
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From lindaas@sbhep.physics.sunysb.edu :

> We would like to use the arrow keys from our vt240 keyboard  
> (at least I think it is a vt240). In IDL we can use GET\_KBRD()  
> to get ASCII keys but have not figured out how to determine if  
> an arrow key was hit.  
> for example  
> IDL>a=get\_kbrd(1)  
> IDL>[D  
> ->this is what happens if we hit the left-arrow key (its code is  
> ESC-[D I beleive). >

> If someone knows how to do this please respond via e-mail to  
> zhang@bnlx1l.nsls.bnl.gov (or bnlx1l::zhang )

> Thanks!

> (ps it should also apply to function keys as well?)

Some time ago I solved this problem via :

```
Wave_x_s1: a = get_kbrd(1) & b = get_kbrd(0) & c = get_kbrd(0) ; LEFT arrow-key
```

```
Wave_x_s1: print,byte(a),byte(b), byte(c)
```

```
27
```

```
91
```

```
68
```

```
Wave_x_s1: a = get_kbrd(1) & b = get_kbrd(0) & c = get_kbrd(0) ; RIGHT arrow-key
```

```
Wave_x_s1: print,byte(a),byte(b), byte(c)
```

```
27
```

```
91
```

```
67 ; <-- note the difference
```

Unfortunately this just works under plain X11, on an old SUN 3/60 and with  
WAVE CI 3.1; it does NOT under OPENWINDOWS, on a Sparc 1+. and with  
WAVE CI 3. OR HIGHER !!

So maybe this helps you to get around the problem.  
If there is another - better- solution, please let me know.

K.Knipp

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