
Subject: checking if variable is defined

Posted by [Dominik\[1\]](#) on Wed, 11 Apr 2001 15:47:22 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Helle there,

I would like to plot a variable, but only if it is existing. When the Variable is undefined, nothing should happen. So I am searching for an expression for the if statement. Does anybody know an expression like: if (variable_name existing) then...

Thanks

Dominik

--

Dominik Paul
dpaul@ukl.uni-freiburg.de

Abt. PET/Nuklearmedizin

Subject: Re: checking if variable is defined

Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 11 Apr 2001 16:59:42 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Dominik (dpaul@ukl.uni-freiburg.de) writes:

> I would like to plot a variable, but only if it is existing. When the
> Variable is undefined, nothing should happen. So I am searching for an
> expression for the if statement. Does anybody know an expression like:
> if (variable_name existing) then...

IF N_Elements(variable_name) NE 0 THEN doSomething

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: checking if variable is defined
Posted by [Bernard Puc](#) on Thu, 12 Apr 2001 12:19:24 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Dominik wrote:

>
> Helle there,
>
> I would like to plot a variable, but only if it is existing. When the
> Variable is undefined, nothing should happen. So I am searching for an
> expression for the if statement. Does anybody know an expression like:
> if (variable_name existing) then...

One way to do this is with the N_ELEMENTS() function:

```
if (n_elements( variable ) GT 0) then print,'Variable exists'
```

--

Bernard Puc	AETC, INC.
bpuc@va.aetc.com	1225 Jefferson Davis Highway #800
(703) 413-0500	Arlington, VA 22202
