
Subject: Unsupported keyword on older IDL version
Posted by [Paul Hick](#) on Fri, 26 Jul 2002 23:13:39 GMT
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This kind of problem must have come up in this group before, but here it is anyways.

If I call the IDL systime function with the utc keyword:
`print, systime(/utc)`

on IDL versions older than 5.4 I get the expected 'keyword not supported' error message, since, well, it's not supported, right? The error message pops up when the function containing the systime call is compiled, so testing e.g. `!version.release` before executing the systime call doesn't work.

The only solution I have come up with so far is to put the systime call inside a `call_function` call:

```
print, call_function( 'systime', /utc)
```

This will compile (I will still need to test for `!version.release` before actually executing the statement of course).

This to me looks like a somewhat illegitimate use of `call_function`. Not that I mind bending the rules a bit, but are there any other (better) techniques of dealing with keywords that don't work in all IDL versions.

Paul
