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Subject: Re: test for ENVI running in IDL code  
Posted by [Peter Mason](#) on Mon, 06 Dec 2004 23:18:27 GMT  
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timothy.williams@nvl.army.mil wrote:

> Is there a way to check to see if ENVI is already running from IDL?  
> I'm writing an application that uses ENVI (6.1) and I want to be sure  
> that envi is running before I start calling ENVI\_\* routines.  
>  
> Thanks.

Hi Timothy,

There's probably a better way and the following function is a bit brutal,  
but it works:

```
forward_function envi_real_main_base
function enviloader, nothing
  catch, e
  if keyword_set(e) then return, 0
  return, widget_info( envi_real_main_base(), /valid )
end
```

Cheers  
Peter Mason.

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Subject: Re: test for ENVI running in IDL code  
Posted by [enod](#) on Tue, 07 Dec 2004 06:52:56 GMT  
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There may be a little trouble. What will happen if only IDL is running?  
The function envi\_real\_main\_base() will not be available. To check if  
one function is loaded, you can issue a HELP command:

```
help,name='envi_open_file',/routines,output=output
```

Search the \*output\* variable for "envi\_open\_file" function and then you  
can figure out if ENVI is running.

Tian.

P.S. It seems that envi\_real\_main\_base is not listed in ENVI help  
document, so the check of it could result in failure.

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Subject: Re: test for ENVI running in IDL code  
Posted by [timothy.williams](#) on Tue, 07 Dec 2004 13:03:32 GMT  
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enod wrote:

- > There may be a little trouble. What will happen if only IDL is running?
- > The function `envi_real_main_base()` will not be available. To check if one function is loaded, you can issue a HELP command:
- >
- > `help,name='envi_open_file',/routines,output=output`
- >
- > Search the \*output\* variable for "envi\_open\_file" function and then you can figure out if ENVI is running.
- >
- > Tian.
- >
- > P.S. It seems that `envi_real_main_base` is not listed in ENVI help document, so the check of it could result in failure.

Exactly my point. I like the idea of using HELP. I'll give it a try.  
Thanks.

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Subject: Re: test for ENVI running in IDL code  
Posted by [timothy.williams](#) on Tue, 07 Dec 2004 13:04:20 GMT  
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enod wrote:

- > There may be a little trouble. What will happen if only IDL is running?
- > The function `envi_real_main_base()` will not be available. To check if one function is loaded, you can issue a HELP command:
- >
- > `help,name='envi_open_file',/routines,output=output`
- >
- > Search the \*output\* variable for "envi\_open\_file" function and then you can figure out if ENVI is running.
- >
- > Tian.
- >
- > P.S. It seems that `envi_real_main_base` is not listed in ENVI help document, so the check of it could result in failure.

Exactly my point. I like the idea of using HELP. I'll give it a try.  
Thanks.

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Subject: Re: test for ENVI running in IDL code  
Posted by [timothy.williams](#) on Tue, 07 Dec 2004 13:05:19 GMT  
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enod wrote:

- > There may be a little trouble. What will happen if only IDL is running?
- > The function `envi_real_main_base()` will not be available. To check if one function is loaded, you can issue a HELP command:
- >
- > `help,name='envi_open_file',/routines,output=output`
- >
- > Search the `*output*` variable for "envi\_open\_file" function and then you can figure out if ENVI is running.
- >
- > Tian.
- >
- > P.S. It seems that `envi_real_main_base` is not listed in ENVI help document, so the check of it could result in failure.

Exactly my point. I like the idea of using HELP. I'll give it a try.  
Thanks.

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Subject: Re: test for ENVI running in IDL code  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 07 Dec 2004 13:45:41 GMT  
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enod writes:

- > There may be a little trouble. What will happen if only IDL is running?
- > The function `envi_real_main_base()` will not be available.

Well, I think that is pretty much the *\*point\** of Peter's little piece of code. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Tip to Peter: It doesn't pay to be subtle when posting to public forums. Better to just spell it out, even if the code looks clunky. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

