
Subject: Can I do this with call_procedure/call_function, or do I have to use execute?

Posted by [Braedley](#) on Mon, 18 Sep 2006 18:44:29 GMT

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I posted this recently in IDL only group, but to no avail, so I'll try here now.

In a widget program, I have a pseudo command line. When an event is triggered for this command line, the contents of the line are passed to the handler (obviously as a string). That string may contain something like:

```
print, f_samp
```

in which case, I would like the program to display the value for f_samp in an output text widget, much the same way that entering the same command into the IDLDE command line prints the value to the command output window. The code to do this with execute is fairly easy, namely:

```
executed=execute('widget_control, output_text_widget, $  
/append, set_value=' + commands[1], 0, 0)
```

where commands is the value returned after performing strsplit on the input string with space and comma delimiters (in this case, f_samp). What I'm wondering is, since I want this particular piece of code to run on a computer with only a copy of the virtual machine installed, can I accomplish the same feat with only using call_procedure and or call_function?

As a side note, the following will not work:

```
call_procedure, 'widget_control', output_text_widget, $  
/append, set_value=commands[1]
```

That will just print f_samp, not the value of f_samp.
