

---

Subject: Detecting whether a user-defined System Variable is in use

Posted by [M. Katz](#) on Wed, 24 Mar 2010 04:09:56 GMT

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

---

Besides writing an error trap, is there a sanctioned way to tell if a user-defined system variable has been defined?

Suppose I use DEFSYSV to create a new !myVariable.

For regular variables I can use `IsDefined = (size(x, /type) NE 0)`.

But for System Variables, IDL crashes when it sees that !myVariable has not yet been defined. What is the crash-free alternative?

Thanks!

M.

---