



TSO/E External Functions

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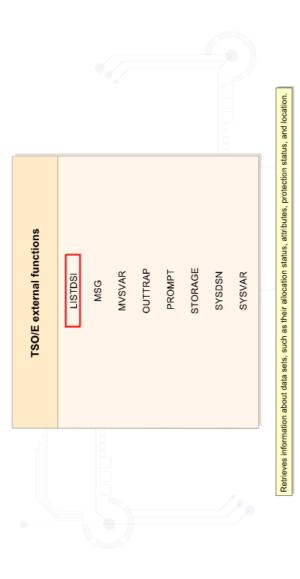


TSO/E External Functions

In this module, you will look at the TSO/E external functions that enable REXX to use many of the facilities and options in the older CLIST interpreted language.

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Identify TSO/E External Functions for Interrogating Data Set Information
 Identify TSO/E External Functions for Controlling and Trapping Messages
 Identify TSO/E External Functions for Interrogating System Information



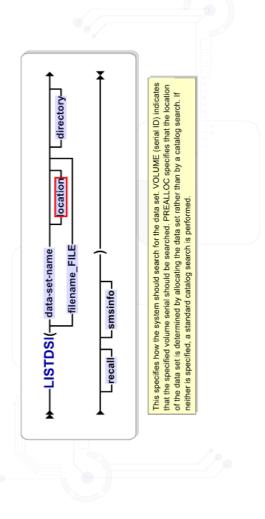
After REXX was ported to the MVS and TSO/E operating environment in 1988, there were several useful functions in the CLIST interpreted language that REXX could not perform.

These were rewritten as special functions that are available only when REXX is running under TSO/E. They can be called in the same way as other REXX functions, but the values returned by these functions do not follow the same usage patterns of most other functions.

Mouse-over each of the most commonly used TSO/E external functions for a description.





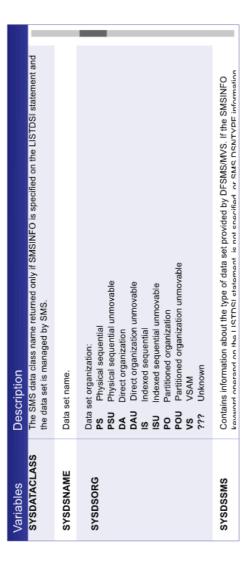


The LISTDSI function enables information about the structure and attributes of a data set to be used in a REXX procedure. Note that no commas are used in the syntax of the LISTDSI function. If a data set name is passed without quotes, TSO/E will append the TSO prefix to the beginning of the data set name.

Mouse-over the syntax for a description of each subparameter.





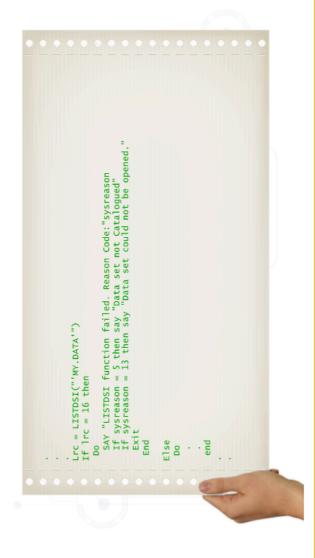


Unlike most built-in functions, the LISTDSI function only returns the return code of the function. Approximately 30 other variables are set and are immediately available in the REXX function variable pool if the return code is 0 or 4.

Scroll through the list of the variables set by the LISTDSI function.







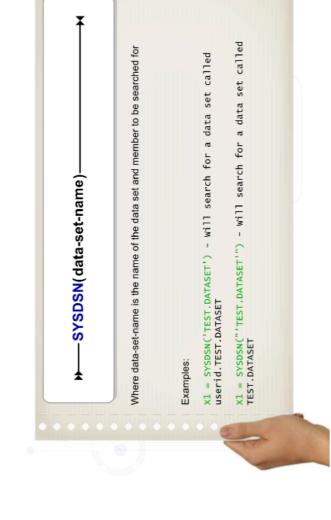
The three possible values returned by the LISTDSI function, which should always be checked to ensure that the function worked, are:

- 0 Successful completion 4 Successful completion but some values could not be determined
 - 16 LISTDSI function failed

If LISTDSI returns a value of 16, the variable SYSREASON contains a reason code describing the error. Reason codes are listed in the TSO/E REXX Reference. An example of code that could be used when using the LISTDSI function is shown above.

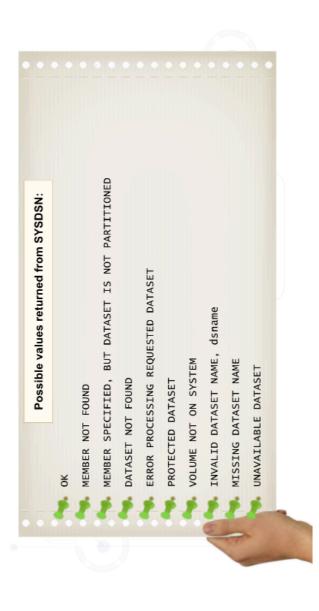






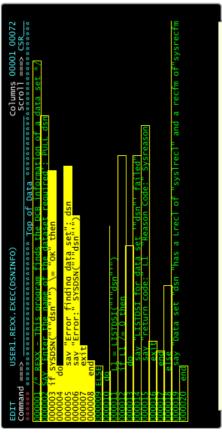
The SYSDSN function can be used to check whether a data set and member exists in the system catalog.

If the data set name is not enclosed in quotes when passed to the system, TSO appends the current TSO prefix to the beginning of the data set name.



If the SYSDSN function successfully finds a data set in the system catalog, it will return the value OK.

Other values can be returned depending on the error that has occurred. The possible strings that can be returned from the SYSDSN function are listed above.



If the data set exists, the SYSDSN function will return the result "OK", If it does not return "OK", display a message indicating an error occurred, and display the actual returned statement from the SYSDSN function. Note the """ characters around the dsn variable in the SYSDSN function. These ensure that the data set name is passed with literal single quotes surrounding it.

This is an example of the SYSDSN and LISTDSI functions in use.

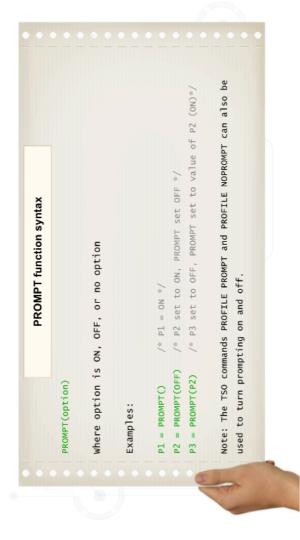


The MSG function enables the display of TSO/E informational messages from commands or functions to be switched on or off. This function can stop unwanted messages from TSO being displayed on the terminal. Not all messages are prevented from being displayed; it depends on the type of message and where it comes from.

No matter which option is used, the MSG function always returns the current value of the MSG facility before the function is performed. Using a variable when first switching MSG to OFF enables the program to return MSG to its original setting before exiting.





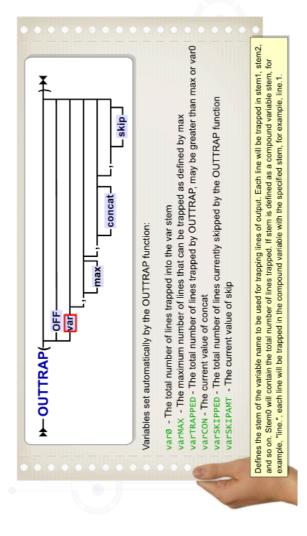


The PROMPT() function enables the TSO command prompting facility to be switched on or off. When prompting is on and an incomplete TSO command is entered, the system prompts the user for the missing parameters.

If this is inconvenient while executing a REXX, it may be preferable to allow the command to fail and check the return code to execute an error or recovery routine. When ON, prompts can be replied to by using data in the external data queue or stack. The format of the PROMPT function is X1 = PROMPT (option) where option is ON, OFF, or no option; X1 will be set to the current value of PROMPT and the prompting facility will be set to whichever option is specified.



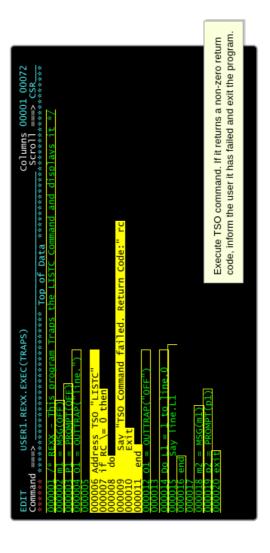




The OUTTRAP function traps messages from commands or programs that would normally be displayed on the terminal. For example, a user would normally list all the data sets starting with their TSO userid by entering LISTC on their TSO terminal. With the OUTTRAP function, each line produced by the command can be trapped into a stem variable defined by the function. After executing the required command, OUTTRAP should be set to OFF to ensure no future commands overwrite the trapped lines. The value returned by the OUTTRAP function is a return code indicating whether the function call successfully completed.

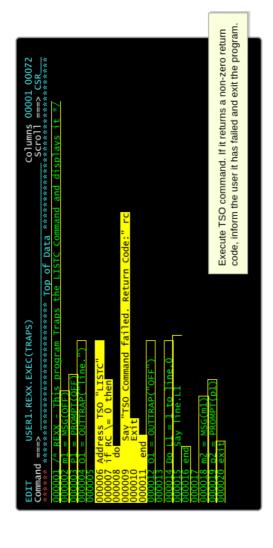






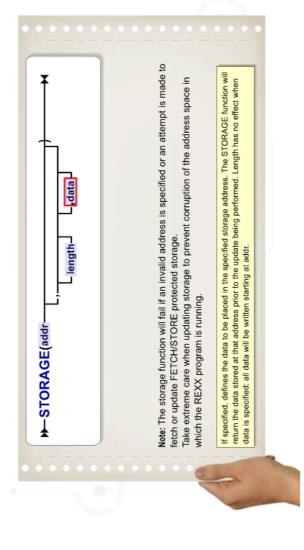
This is an example of the TSO/E message trapping and controlling functions.





This is an example of the TSO/E message trapping and controlling functions.





The STORAGE function enables the user to interrogate and, in some instances, change the storage within the user's address space. This is mainly a systems programmer function that is rarely used in REXX coding.



Description	The APPC/MVS logical unit (LU) name	The level of MVS/Data Facility Product (MVS/DFP)	The level of the base control program (BCP) component of z/OS	Symbolic variables of your MVS system	The z/OS name, version, release, modification level, and FMID	The security label (SECLABEL) name of the TSO/E session	Identification of the system on which System Management Facilities (SMF) is active	Indicator of whether DFSMS/MVS is available to your REXX exec	MVS system symbol representing its system name	The MVS sysplex name as found in the COUPLExx or LOADxx member of SYS1.PARMLIB	The name of the system that your REXX exec is running on, as specified in the SYSNAME statement in SYS1.PARMLIB member IEASYSxx
Variable name	SYSAPPCLU	SYSDFP	SYSMVS	SYMDEF	SYSOPSYS	SYSSECLAB	SYSSMFID	SYSSMS	SYSCLONE	SYSPLEX	SYSNAME

The MVSVAR function enables a REXX program to interrogate several system variables in the OS/390 and z/OS environments, which describe MVS, TSO/E, and the current session environments. These include such data as the symbolic name of the MVS system. The format of the MVSVAR function is X1 = MVSVAR(var) where var is one of the variable names shown in the table displayed here.

When using the SYMDEF parameter, two values are passed to the MVSVAR function. The second refers to the symbolic name as defined in the COUPLExx, LOADxx, or IEASYMxx member of SYS1.PARMLIB.

For example, if the IEASYMxx member of SYS1.PARMLIB defined the variable &SYSNAME as 'SYSA', then:





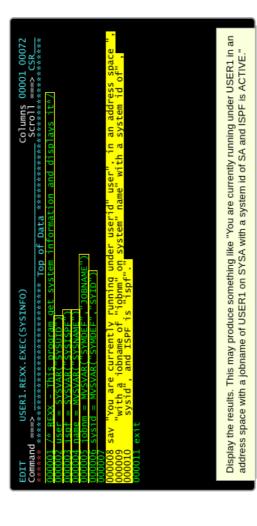
The SYSVAR function is similar to the MVSVAR function. It returns the value of system variables that are available within the TSO/E session, which enables the user to determine specific information about the TSO/E environment.

The format of the SYSVAR function is X1 = SYSVAR(var) where var is one of the variable names shown in the table displayed here. The variable name should be enclosed in quotes.

Scroll through the list of argument values and their descriptions. Refer to the TSO/E REXX Reference for more information.



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Mouse-over this example of the TSO/E system information functions for a description of each clause.