

**direxternal()** — Obtain list of existing external globals

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## Description

`direxternal(pattern)` returns a column vector containing the names matching *pattern* of the existing external globals. `direxternal()` returns `J(0,1,"")` if there are no such globals.

*pattern* is interpreted by [M-5] `strmatch()`.

## Syntax

*string colvector* `direxternal(string scalar pattern)`

## Remarks and examples

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See [M-5] `findexternal()` for the definition of a global.

A list of all globals can be obtained by `direxternal("*")`.

## Conformability

`direxternal(pattern):`

*pattern:*      $1 \times 1$   
*result:*      $n \times 1$

## Diagnostics

`direxternal(pattern)` returns `J(0,1,"")` when there are no globals matching *pattern*.

## Also see

[M-5] `findexternal()` — Find, create, and remove external globals

[M-4] `programming` — Programming functions