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

### 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

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 × 1
- **result**: n × 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