**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