



AHELP for CIAO 3.4

slangrtl

Context: [slangrtl](#)

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Synopsis

S–Lang Run Time Library

Description

The S–Lang interpreter comes with a pre–defined set of functions for many common operations. This set of functions is known as the S–Lang Run Time Library and is documented in ahelp – where the functions are labelled with a context of slangrtl, so "ahelp –c slangrtl" will list them – and in the [slangrtl reference guide](#) of the S–Lang library. The version of S–Lang included in CIAO 3.2 is 1.4.9.

For more information on S–Lang try "ahelp slang" and the "Guide to the S–Lang Language" available at <http://www.s-lang.org/docs.html>.

The functions in the S–Lang Run Time Library are available from ChIPS, Sherpa, and slsh.

Example 1

```
ahelp -c slangrtl
```

This command lists all the functions in the S–lang Run Time Library, together with this file.

Example 2

```
ahelp slangrtl /array/
```

This command lists all the functions in the S–lang Run Time Library which contain the string "array".

Example 3

```
chips> vmessage( "The time is %s", time() )
```

```
The time is Fri Jun 13 09:52:57 2003
```

Here we call two functions from the library – `vmessage()` and `time()` – to print out the current time. Since the code was being run from ChIPS – it could have been run unchanged from Sherpa – there was no need to terminate the line with a semi-colon, as required by S-Lang, since this is automatically added for you.

Example 4

The same routines can also be used with `slsh`. Here we have a text file containing the above line – this time with a trailing semi-colon since it is not being evaluated from ChIPS or Sherpa – which we then execute using `slsh`.

```
unix% cat time.sl
vmessage( "The time is %s", time );
unix% slsh time.sl
The time is Fri Jun 13 09:56:35 2003
```

Since the `time()` function does not take any arguments we do not need to include `()` after its name.

CHANGES IN CIAO 3.2

New functions

The `provide()`, `require()`, `append_to_slang_load_path()`, `prepend_to_slang_load_path()`, `reverse()`, `shift()`, and `_featurep()` functions have been added to the S-Lang Run-Time Library in CIAO 3.2. Use `"ahelp <name>"` for information on each of these functions.

CHANGES IN CIAO 3.1

Availability of `cumsum`

The `cumsum` function is now available from ChIPS and Sherpa. Prior to CIAO 3.1 only code evaluated by `slsh` could use this function.

New documentation

The `ahelp` documentation was updated in CIAO 3.1 to include the variables provided by the S-Lang run-time library. The following variables are now documented (use `"ahelp variable"` to view): `_NARGS`; `_auto_declare`; `_debug_info`; `_slang_doc_dir`; `_slang_version`; `_slang_version_string`; `_slangtrace`; `_traceback`; and `errno`.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The information for the `ahelp` pages on the S-Lang Run-Time Library functions and variables was taken from the [Intrinsic Function Reference](#) document.

See Also

slang

[slsh](#)

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URL:
<http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/slangrtl.html>
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