
Subject: Re: Dumb Dumb Question

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Wed, 18 Nov 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Colin Rosenthal wrote:

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>
> This may be really stupid, but is there a way around the following
> feature:
>
> pro x_test,x=x,x2=x2
>   if n_elements(x) ne 0 then print, 'x=',x
>   if n_elements(x2) ne 0 then print, 'x2=',x2
> end
>
> when I run it with
>> x_test,x=1
> I get
> % Ambiguous keyword abbreviation: X.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
> Does this mean no IDL procedure will ever work if one keyword is a left
> substring of another keyword? Can I force IDL to interpret the "x" as "x"
> and not an ambiguous abbreviation for "x2"?
```

According to the IDL 5.1 online help under 'Building IDL Applications | Defining Procedures and Functions | Parameters', it says

"When calling a routine with a keyword parameter, you can abbreviate the keyword to its shortest, unambiguous abbreviation".

Cheers,
Liam.

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