
Subject: Re: how to pass a parameter

Posted by [Pavel Romashkin](#) on Tue, 17 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Eva,

I can't quite figure out what you are trying to do; it would help if you were more descriptive. I guess you can pass and alter variables in functions as well as have functions return values to variables. Just be careful about what gets passed by value (element of an array, field of a structure) - these do not get changed when passed as parameters; if you pass an entire array, or structure, or a variable as a parameter (these get passed by reference), they can be altered.

> how can I pass this variable
> in the main program ? My goal is to change this variable in the main
> program (with a for structure) and then get (by calling the
> function) a new result . how is this possible in idl ?

I guess, it would look like:

```
for i=0, 10 do a = 2*i  
a = my_function(a)  
my_procedure, a
```

> I got a nxn-matrix , that is described with a for-structure with
> "shift" . now I want to change the coefficient of this matrix using
> again a for-structure in order to get several matrices with other
> coefficients. how can I call this matrix A with 2 indices ?

Sorry, here I got lost. What are the dimensions? What is a nxn-matrix? How is it "described with SHIFT"? Why use a for-loop? What matrix coefficients? Am I missing something? Sorry if I am just too ignorant, just learning too (life-long process for many :-).

Cheers,
Pavel

P.S. Why does it seem hopeless to get any postings from people after about 1:30 pm?
