
Subject: Re: Is n_params() supposed to behave this way?

Posted by [mallors](#) on Mon, 23 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <7ps7r7\$i9p\$1@nnrp1.deja.com>,

Mirko Vukovic <mvukovic@taz.telusa.com> writes:

> Consider the following code:

>

> pro sub1,arg1,arg2,arg3,arg4,arg5

>

> message,/info,string(n_params())

>

> return

>

> end

>

> pro sub,arg1,arg2,arg3,arg4,arg5

>

> message,/info,string(n_params())

>

> sub1,arg1,arg2,arg3,arg4,arg5

>

> return

> end

>

> If at the command prompt I do

>

> sub,4

>

> IDL will print out

> IDL> sub,4

> % SUB: 1

> % SUB1: 5

>

> In sub1 all arguments except the first one are still undefined.

Interesting, I ran across this same behavior today. I fixed my code by switching to N_ELEMENTS instead of N_PARAMS. The code is a little messier, but it works :-)

The N_PARAMS documentation is not totally clear, but I suppose it passes for being correct:

"This function always returns the number of parameters that were used in calling the procedure or function from which N_PARAMS is called."

Add the caveat "even if those parameters are undefined" !

-bob

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