
Subject: Re: undefined keyword variables
Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 01 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

> As to David's suggestion to define default values, that's not always
> feasible. What about the POSITION keyword? If it's not defined then
> you want to rely on IDL's standard positioning. No default should be
> required!

I think it is not only feasible, but required, that you
provide default values for **any** variable you plan
to use in the code. Certainly if I were planning to
use the POSITION keyword I would have something like this:

```
IF N_Elements(thePosition) EQ 0 THEN thePosition=!P.Position
...
Plot, data, Position=thePosition
```

As for keywords that come in with `_Extra`, well, that's
what God made the `Catch` statement for. :-)

Cheers,

David

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