Subject: Re: Accessing "main" level variables
Posted by Martin Schultz on Wed, 19 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Craig Markwardt wrote:
>
>
>
> > I like your questino. I know I will get flamed for saying it, but I
> > think there are some times when it is desireable for a program to
> > deposit its results into the main level. For example, a fully canned
> > curve fitting program may want to return the fitting results. This
> > should of course be done with full control and permission of the user.
> >
> > "Why," you ask, "don't you just return it as a regular or keyword
> > parameter?"
> >
> > "Simple," I say. "You don't always know how many variables you are
> > going to return." Also, if it were a curve fitting program "for
> > dummies" then I would want to make it as simple as possible.
> >
> > Incidentally, there is an internal IDL routine which *can* do this.
> > Unfortunately you need to write a DLM to access it.
> >
> > Craig
> >
> > --
> > ---------- ----------
> > Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
> > Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
> > ---------- ----------

No! No flaming. But as you describe it, the solution to your problem
would
sound like almost the typical object oriented approach. Simple enough,
too,
once the user understands he/she has to write
  obj_fit->get_parameter,a0=a0,m=m
(or something similar)
The nice thing would be that you decouple the actual fitting process
from the
output, so you can access the fit result at any time (until you
obj_destroy
the fit object, of course). You could still write a
procedural/functional
interface for the object to prevent the "uninitiated" user from running
away.

Cheers,
Martin

PS: maybe I shut put a foot in my mouth, for I am talking so much about objects these days but never supply any useful routines which make use of them ;-(One day that will change for sure!...

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