

---

Subject: Re: Passing optional parameters through a wrapper routine

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

David Fanning wrote:

```
>
> J.D. Smith (jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu) writes:
>
>> Another side-benefit of arg_present() is that you can use it to annoy David
>> Fanning by forcing him to contradict bold statements such as "it is NOT possible
>> to reliably determine if a keyword was used in a call to your program", when in
>> fact the test:
>>
>> n_elements(k) ne 0 OR arg_present(k)
>>
>> will tell you precisely this ;).
```

>

```
> Actually, I've toned the rhetoric down in my IDL
> courses, even if I haven't gotten around to updating
> my web pages.
>
> I now say "It's NOT possible to reliably determine if
> a keyword was used in a call, without resorting to a
> bunch of nonsense I can never remember and you
> shouldn't have to worry about anyway if you do it
> the way I'm telling you." :-)
```

>

See, I told you it annoys him :)

JD

--

```
J.D. Smith          |*|    WORK: (607) 255-5842
Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy |*|    (607) 255-6263
304 Space Sciences Bldg.      |*|    FAX: (607) 255-5875
Ithaca, NY 14853           |*|
```

---