
Subject: Re: Keyword precedence

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 28 Aug 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Mark Hadfield (m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz) writes:

- > Now to control (say) the X axis the caller just sets xaxis_properties equal
- > to a structure containing the appropriate keyword:value pairs, e.g.:
- >
- > my_visualisation, XAXIS_PROPERTIES={notext:1, minor:0}
- >
- > Now this approach obviously relies on the "_properties" structures
- > overriding the defaults.

This is how I've been configuring, for example, the PostScript device for just about forever:

```
ps_device_keywords = PSConfig()
Set_Plot, 'PS'
Device, _Extra=ps_device_keywords
```

It works great in a nice, controlled environment like PSConfig, where I know *exactly* what keywords are going to be in the structure coming back from it. If I want to make sure a value is set (Color is an obvious one), I can always force it:

```
ps_device_keywords = PSConfig()
ps_device_keywords.color = 1
Set_Plot, 'PS'
Device, _Extra=ps_device_keywords
```

But I have been much more wary of letting the user create inherited structures, for some of the same reasons you and JD so elegantly describe.

But I appreciate the discussion and the time everyone has devoted to figuring this out. It has been extremely helpful. Thank you.

Cheers,

David

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