Subject: Pass-By-Reference question.
Posted by timrobishaw on Wed, 10 Mar 2004 09:19:27 GMT

Hi there,

I've been using _REF_EXTRA for a long time now and have come to
appreciate that values of keywords sent to a module with the
_REF_EXTRA mechanism will override any keywords that are set inside
the module. Here is a great example:

```
pro whaddup, _REF_EXTRA=_extra
plot, [0], [0], /NODATA, XRANGE=[-5,5], YRANGE=[-5,5], PSYM=4,
_EXTRA=_extra
end
```

IDL> whaddup

I see what the module asked for: axes from -5 to 5 with no datum
plotted.

Now I can override the XRANGE and YRANGE keyword values by passing
them by reference...

IDL> whaddup, XRANGE=[-1,1], YRANGE=[-1,1]

I see what I asked for: axes from -1 to 1.

However, if I send NODATA set to ZERO, i.e., I'd really like to see my
datum this time...

IDL> whaddup, XRANGE=[-1,1], YRANGE=[-1,1], NODATA=0

I don't get what I asked for. The value for NODATA sent by reference
does not override the value set inside the module. This is also true
for the /NOERASE keyword.

IDL newsgroup: whaddup?