

---

Subject: Re: output keywords

Posted by [sjt](#) on Wed, 26 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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

---

Darren Orbach (orbach@rockvax.rockefeller.edu) wrote:

: Here's a question

about output variables and keywords: it seems that I cannot : create a new variable using an output keyword, but can modify an already : existing one. The specific program I wrote is an image viewer, which opens a specified : file and displays an image, and can be called with an additional keyword for output : (e.g. iname = iname). If iname has never been defined before, then after calling my : viewer, if I type: info, iname, I get: INAME UNDEFINED=<Undefined>. However, if : I first define iname, say as a 100\*100 fltarr, after running my viewer, iname is rescaled : to fit whatever size the image was that I was viewing (in this example, info, iname) yields: : INAME FLOAT = Array(384, 288). Why is this?

: Darren Orbach

Maybe you have a check on keyword\_set in your procedure. If so, then passing an undefined keyword will not return false from the keyword\_set function (defined to return 0 if the argument is undefined or scalar zero, 1 otherwise).

e.g.

```
pro sks, kv=kv
```

```
if (keyword_set(kv)) then kv=findgen(200)
```

```
end
```

won't do anything if called with an undefined kv key. But:

```
pro sks, kv=kv
```

```
kv = findgen(200)
```

```
end
```

will work, and it won't fall over if you don't give a key, kv will just be a local variable.

--

+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

| James Tappin, | School of Physics & Space Research | O\_\_ |

