
Subject: Re: keyword_set bug or feature

Posted by [zawodny](#) on Fri, 12 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <3p03k3\$ip1@kwuz.nerc-keyworth.ac.uk> wmc@unixa.nerc-keyworth.ac.uk writes:

>
> Another solution is to set key=[0], ie the array containing 0.
> Then keyword_set returns true, and IDL happily uses [0] and 0 fairly
> interchangeably.
>

Yes, but in practice this might appear in code as follows:

```
pro MYPRO, v1, v2, key1=key1, key2=key2
```

```
...  
if KEYWORD_SET([key1]) then ...
```

```
...  
return  
end
```

The problem here being that when IDL tries to put key1 into a single element vector and key1 has not been passed in the call, IDL will barf with "variable key1 undefined".

I think you were suggesting that the user type instead

```
IDL> mypro,v1,v2,key1=[0]
```

If so I think you are asking too much of the user and would be better off just changing the code to use N_ELEMENTS() instead of KEYWORD_SET().

--

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