
Subject: Re: keyword params in HISTOGRAM
Posted by [thompson](#) on Tue, 03 Dec 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Mark Fardal wrote:

>
> Hi,
>
> I'm sure this is a stupid question, but I can't figure it out.
> Normally when you pass keyword parameters, you can pass something
> that's undefined, right? As in this example
>
> (rest deleted)

Although the example you give isn't optimal, it is correct that you can pass undefined keywords to procedures. This is because inside procedures you can check to see if keywords are passed with either the `N_ELEMENTS` function or `KEYWORD_SET`. Thus, passing an undefined keyword is equivalent to not passing it at all, which is a useful thing IMHO. Unfortunately, this doesn't work with built-in IDL routines, which I find a very inconvenient and silly restriction.

Bill Thompson
