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Subject: Re: manipulate output keywords

Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2012 14:47:10 GMT

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The extra variable is made differently when you use `_ref_extra` or just `_extra`. If you use `_extra`, it is a structure with one field for each keyword. But if `_ref_extra` is used, it is an array of keyword names. The values would have to be accessed with `scope_varfetch` using its `/ref_extra` keyword.

This is described in the "Keyword Inheritance" section of the help, though it does have something wrong:

"variable e, within TEST, contains an anonymous structure with the value:

```
[ 'LINESTYLE', 'THICK' ]"
```

Where the variable is a string array, not a structure.

On Tuesday, March 13, 2012 11:05:19 AM UTC-3, nata wrote:

```
> Hello guys,  
>  
> I am developing a library and I am completely lost in something that I don't know if it's possible  
to do.  
> My problem is related to the output keywords that some routines can have. What I am trying to  
do is to collect those keywords using the extra or ref_extra keyword and return the correct output  
value to the caller.  
>  
> I don't know if this is clear but see the example below:  
>  
> IDL> TEST, OUT1=out1, OUT2=out2  
>  
> PRO TEST, _REF_EXTRA=extra  
>  
> ;; My routine should be able to return the values for out1 and out2  
> ;; without knowing the keyword names, is that possible ?  
>  
> END  
>  
> I tried with something like extra={OUT1: 1, OUT2: 2} but the caller does not receive the  
information properly.  
>  
> Please, any help will be appreciated,  
> nata
```

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