
Subject: Re: Arg_Present, XSurface, and Other Assorted B

Posted by [wmc](#) on Tue, 12 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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In article e54555e6d6bd26f9896d3@news.frii.com, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

```
> Catch, error
> IF error NE 0 THEN BEGIN ; Can't find LoadData.
>   data = DIST(41)
>   x = Findgen(41)
>   y = Findgen(41)
> ENDIF
>
> IF Arg_Present(data) EQ 0 THEN BEGIN
>   data = LoadData(2)
> ENDIF
```

> here is what happens.

```
> When the call is first made, "data" is not present and
> Arg_Present reports this correctly. The LoadData error occurs
> and I bounce up to my error handler. I define "data" and
> continue. But Arg_Present *STILL* reports data as missing
> in action. This is so even when it is defined AND a variable
> that is passed by reference. As a result, my code goes into
> an infinite loop.
```

Um, forgive me here, since I'm still an IDL 4 person... but it looks like arg_present is behaving quite correctly in this case. arg_present is supposed to tell you if "data" is passed as an argument, no? And it isn't, even when you define it within the error routine. Or have I missed something here?

- William, "he's still on 4.0" (but our system people are working on it)

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