
Subject: keywords and passing values

Posted by [Ingo von Borstel](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2007 16:49:38 GMT

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Hi there,

I probably have - again - an issue with parameters and calling by reference and value. But I don't see where I miss something as the same works in other places:

I have a set of routines (actually object routines) that take a parameter "valid". What I do is along these lines (added line numbers for reference):

```
1 myobj::setdata, var
2 valid = 1
3 objnum = self->getdata_index(var,valid=valid,_extra=extra)
4 IF NOT valid THEN PRINT, "creating new data!"
5 END

7 FUNCTION myobj::getdata_index, var, valid=valid, $ (some other keywords)
8 valid = 1
9 (check for several things and return the search result, if successful)
10 valid = 0
11 RETURN, -1
12 END
```

If I now call the print routine with a variable value that will fail, print itself never gets reported that its subroutine, getdata_index returned valid=0, though I checked in line 11 that valid=0

```
IDL> myobj->print, 'not existent'
IDL>
```

Funnily, if I trace the programme and stop in line 4, call

```
IDL> valid = 1 & print, getdata_index(var,valid=valid) & print, valid
-1 0
IDL>
```

I get the results I want (valid=0).

I'm a bit puzzled right now and don't see where something is missing.

Best regards & thanks for any advice,
Ingo

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If you need an urgent reply, replace newsgroups by vgap.
