Subject: Re: output keywords
Posted by sjt on Wed, 26 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

Darren Orbach (orbach@rockvax.rockefeller.edu) wrote:

: Here's a question
about output variables and keywords: it seems that I cannot : create a
new variable using an output keyword, but can modify an already : existing
one. The specific program I wrote is an image viewer, which opens a
specified : file and displays an image, and can be called with an
additional keyword for output : (e.g. iname = iname). If iname has never
been defined before, then after calling my : viewer, if I type: info,
iname, I get: INAME UNDEFINED=<Undefined>. However, if : I first define
iname, say as a 100*100 fltarr, after running my viewer, iname is rescaled
: to fit whatever size the image was that I was viewing (in this example,
info, iname) yields: : INAME FLOAT = Array(384, 288). Why is this?

: Darren Orbach

Maybe you have a check on keyword_set in your procedure. If so, then
passing an undefined keyword will not return false from the keyword_set
function (defined to return 0 if the argument is undefined or scalar
zero, 1 otherwise).

e.g.

```
 pro sks, kv=kv

 if (keyword_set(kv)) then kv=findgen(200)

 end
```

won't do anything if called with an undefined kv key. But:

```
 pro sks, kv=kv

 kv = findgen(200)

 end
```

will work, and it won't fall over if you don't give a key, kv will just
be a local variable.

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 | James Tappin,        | School of Physics & Space Research | O__    |
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