

Table Preferences

Table preferences allow you to control what happens when you create a new table or add new columns to an existing table. To set preferences, create a table and set it up to your taste. We call this your *prototype* table. Then choose Capture Table Prefs from the Table menu.

Preferences are normally in effect only for *manual* operations, not for automatic operations from Igor procedures. This is discussed in more detail in **How to Use Preferences** on page III-516.

When you initially install Igor, all preferences are set to the factory defaults. The dialog indicates which preferences you have changed, and which are factory defaults.

The Window Position and Size preference affects the creation of new tables only.

The Column Styles preference affects the formatting of newly created tables and of columns added to an existing table. This preference stores column settings for the point column and for one additional column - the first column after the point column in the prototype table. When you create a new table or add columns to a table, these settings determine the formatting of the columns.

The page setup preference affects what happens when you create a new *experiment*, not when you create a new *table*. Here is why.

Each experiment stores *one* page setup for *all* tables in that experiment. The preferences also store one page setup for tables. When you set the preferred page setup for tables, Igor stores a copy of the current experiment's page setup for tables in the preferences file. When you create a new experiment, Igor stores a copy of the preferred page setup for tables in the experiment.

Table Style Macros

The purpose of a table style macro is to allow you to create a number of tables with the same stylistic properties. Using the Window Control dialog, you can instruct Igor to automatically generate a style macro from a prototype table. You can then apply the macro to other tables.

Igor can generate style macros for graphs, tables and page layouts. However, their usefulness is mainly for graphs. See **Graph Style Macros** on page II-350. The principles explained there apply to table style macros also.