
Subject: Re: Background batch jobs in IDL
Posted by [thompson](#) on Wed, 01 Jul 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Eric Williams <ewilliams@wesleyan.edu> writes:

> I seem to remember being able to run IDL batch jobs in the background on
> a UNIX system and now I can't remember if I just made that up or not. I
> know I can run @batchfilename at the IDL command line but is there a way
> of running the batch file name in the background so I can logout and
> come back later?

I suspect that what you want to do is to create a file something like the following:

```
#!/bin/csh
idl << done
... IDL commands ...
done
```

You can then submit this to run as a batch job. I use

```
nice at -c -f MYFILENAME now
```

so that the background job will run at lower priority. In fact, I set this up as an alias with the C-shell command

```
alias submit 'nice at -c -f \!* now'
```

so that all I have to do is say "submit" followed by the filename.

William Thompson
