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Subject: Re: Correct format of "included" files (using "at" sign)

Posted by [paul](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 1994 01:26:04 GMT

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In article <Mar1.191234.31054@acs.ucalgary.ca>, steele@wesson.phys.ucalgary.ca (Dave Steele) writes:

|> I'm trying to use the "at" sign (the \$%^&\*! 'xrn' editor won't let  
|> me type it!) to substitute some code into IDL. The procedure is  
|> tersely described on p. 2-7 of the User's Guide for v3.1. I'm  
|> getting a problem that I think has to do with the format of the  
|> code I'm including. It is an IF\_THEN\_ELSE block with no header  
|> line (like PRO ... or FUNCTION ...) and no trailer lines (like  
|> RETURN, END, EXIT). If I run the routine that invokes the code  
|> substitution, I get syntax errors in the first lines following the  
|> invocation. If I add a line saying 'END' to the substituted code,  
|> I get dropped back to the IDL> prompt at the end of the substituted  
|> code.

...text deleted

The IDL interpreter treats input from a file using the at sign command just as if the contents of the file were typed in at the prompt. This results in different behavior than if the file were compiled with the .run command. In particular multi-line compound statements that contain BEGIN and END statements are not recognized unless you tell the interpreter that a given command line is not complete. Here is how to do it...

```
j=0
k=0
for i=0,10 do begin      &$
  if i le 2 then begin  &$
    j=j+1              &$
    k=k+2              &$
  endif else begin      &$
    j=j-1              &$
    k=k-2              &$
  endelse              &$
  print,i,j,k          &$
endfor
```

If you leave out the &\$ the interpreter gets confused because each line of input is not an independently executable statement.

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