
Subject: .skip

Posted by [Mark Fardal](#) on Sun, 28 Jan 2001 19:46:54 GMT

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Hi,

The .SKIP command doesn't behave quite the way I would prefer.
It doesn't behave as advertised either, although for a different reason.

What it is supposed to do is to skip one statement, or N statements if you give it an argument N, and then execute 1 statement. I would prefer that it not execute that one statement. It seems silly--after all, you are usually just going to type .continue--and who's to say that you won't decide to skip the next statement too. Besides, it's not called .skip-and-execute-one. The usual argument about preserving backwards code compatability don't apply here, since .SKIP can't be invoked from a program.

But anyway, what it actually does when you type IDL> .SKIP [N] is to skip N statements, and then execute N statements. Oops.
This is with IDL 5.2.1L on Debian linux.

Before I submit a bug report, I thought I would ask whether people would like the feature change suggested above as well as the bug fix.
Or are people emotionally attached to the current behavior?

thanks,
Mark

PS: here's a simple example to demonstrate the behavior:

```
pro junk
print, 'line 2'
print, 'line 3'
print, 'line 4'
print, 'line 5'
print, 'line 6'
print, 'line 7'
print, 'line 8'
print, 'line 9'
print, 'line 10'
end
```
