
Subject: Re: printing without a return

Posted by [landsman](#) on Wed, 19 Oct 1994 00:47:00 GMT

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In article <CxvxIF.EqC@hpl.hp.com>, peter@hpl.hp.com (Peter Webb) writes...

> Does anybody know of a way to overprint in IDL? That is, I want to
> print out a value, then back up to the first column on the same line and
> print over the value. The more obvious FORMAT statements don't seem to
> do the trick (with \$ you can prevent the linefeed, but you can't back up

Before IDL V3.6, one could overwrite a line in IDL using a carriage return
(=string("15b)) and a "\$" in the format statement, as in the following

```
pro testb
cr = string("15b)
for i=0,20 do begin
  print,i,cr,f='($,i6,a)' & wait,0.2
endfor
```

But in IDL V3.6, the above code no longer works and one has to place the
carriage return at the *beginning* of the line.

```
for i=0,20 do begin
  print,cr,i,f='($,a,i6)' & wait,0.2
endfor
```

Note that the procedure RDPIX in the standard IDL User's library needs the
above fix in V3.6. The above statements apply to VMS and Unix. I know
the first method above didn't work for Mac IDL V3.5 -- I haven't installed
V3.6 on the Mac yet to see what happens.

--Wayne Landsman

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