
Subject: Re: Defining constants in IDL?

Posted by [jeyadev](#) on Tue, 25 Jun 2002 17:37:28 GMT

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In article <B93A247B.5660%ronn@rlkling.com>,
ronn kling <ronn@rlkling.com> wrote:

```
>
> Hi Marshall,
>
> Actually there is something similar to including a header file. What you
> need is a file with no header (i.e. pro or function as the first line) and
> no end statement. For example,
>
> a = 0
> True = 1
> False = 0
> yes = 'YES'
>
> could be saved in a file called constants.pro.
>
> To include this in your own code you would do this.
>
> pro myProcedure, p1, p2
>
> @constants
>
> ...
> ...
>
> end
>
> The @ sign acts as an include statement to the compiler.
```

Alas, it fails with PV-Wave. Does anyone have a workaround?

```
kaveri 193% cat junk.pro
a = 1.0
b = 2.0
c = 3.0
```

```
kaveri 194% cat try.pro
```

```
pro try, x
```

```
@ junk
print, x + a
print, x + b
print, x + c
```

end

.....

.....

```
WAVE> .run try
% Input line is too long for input buffer of 511 characters.
% Compiled module: TRY.
WAVE>
```

Not good, eh? Thought it was my file try.pro that was the problem. Turns out that it is not. Commenting the line out makes the file 'compile'.

I must say that the lack of this facility is very irksome. It is one of the great advantages of Python, which, though similar to IDL/Wave has distinct advantages with namespaces, etc. There are many times that I would like to call a Wave "main" programme from another (just as I would Unix scripts) and not being able means doing some of the work with Python, etc.

--

Surendar Jeyadev jeyadev@wrc.xerox.bounceback.com

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