
Subject: gurus: example code as main level code ?
Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Fri, 01 Nov 2002 17:04:23 GMT
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Greetings all,

I am going through my monster IDL library, and was wondering what people think of the practice of including a main level "example" or "Test" code at the end of each function and procedure?

Are there any reasons not to do this?

I don't see any, but I am probably missing something, i usually am :).

I do this almost always (and in fact, I am planning to make this a rule, so that all my functions will have an example if anyone runs the function.

Cheers,
bob stockwell

As an example of what I mean, here is a tiny (but useful) function:
You call it as `result = range(array)`, but if you want to see an example of the function, just do
`IDL>.run range`

```
function range, ts,_extra=_extra
```

```
if n_elements(ts) lt 1 then return,-1  
return, [min(ts,_extra=_extra),max(ts,_extra=_extra)]  
end
```

```
a = findgen(10)+44
```

```
print,range(a)
```

```
end
```
