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Subject: Re: how to do a loop in idl using multi-command?  
Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Mon, 18 Apr 2005 05:37:54 GMT  
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Hi,

"lixiaoyao" <lixiaoyao5880@yahoo.com> wrote in message  
news:1113584939.738412.136930@o13g2000cwo.googlegroups.com.. .  
> I can run this in my idl,who know how to solve it?  
> nH2=findgen(10001)\*10.0+0.1  
> ratio=make\_array(10001)  
> for i=0,10000 do  
> x=2\*nH2[i]  
> y=x\*nH2[i]  
> ratio[i]=x/y  
> openw,1,'file'  
> printf,1,ratio  
> close,1  
> it seems to show you can not do multicommand in do loop.  
> thanks

The suggestions that others have given are all great, but you may want to know that you can do the work of this loop using IDL's powerful (and much faster) array operations as follows:

```
nH2=findgen(10001)*10.0+0.1
```

```
x=2*nH2  
y=x*nH2  
ratio=x/y
```

or, if you don't need to make x and y for any other reason:

```
ratio = (2*nH2) / (2*nH2*nH2)
```

or then, by factoring:

```
ratio = 1 / nH2
```

A useful section in IDL Online Help that covers some features that are different from many other languages is "Writing Efficient IDL Programs" (in Programming in IDL:Basics of IDL Programming).

Cheers,

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-Dick

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