
Subject: Re: how to do a loop in idl using multi-command?
Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Fri, 15 Apr 2005 19:49:09 GMT
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If you do @filename, it runs as a batch file, meaning every statement, line by line, is executed as if they were typed on the command line one by one. You get the same error as on the command line.

What was meant in the previous post is a main-level program which has to have an END statement and is run by ".run filename".

Go to the IDL help index and search for "batch file", then choose the subentry "defined". You'll find a description of batch files, main-level programs and named programs. David Fanning's book also describes it in detail.

If you want a FOR loop on the command line or in a batch file, you'll have to write it in one line, combining statements by "&":

```
FOR I=0, 10000 DO BEGIN & x=2*nH2[i] & y=x*nH2[i] & ratio[i]=x/y & ENDFOR
```

Note that the news client might have introduced a line break. This must be all in one line! I guess you realize it's better (more elegant, more understandable) to put it into a main-level or named program.

Good luck,
Benjamin

lixiaoyao wrote:

```
> I use @filename.pro to run it,it is still wrong. any other suggestion?
> for i=0,10000 do
>     ^
> % Syntax error.
> At: /n/a/liletian/test.pro, Line 3
> % Variable is undefined: I.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
> % Variable is undefined: I.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
> % Variable is undefined: Y.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
> endfor
> ^
> % Syntax error.
> At: /n/a/liletian/test.pro, Line 9
>
> end
> ^
```

```
> % Syntax error.  
> At: /n/a/liletian/test.pro, Line 13  
>
```
