
Subject: Re: non-interactive IDL from scripts
Posted by [zowie](#) on Fri, 26 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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ROBERTO BIANCONI (roberto.bianconi@cen.jrc.it) wrote:

: Hi,
: is there anybody who can tell me how to start IDL from a UNIX script?
: IDL non-interactive works fine if I input at prompt:
: idl mycommands.pro
: but this instruction inside a script gives me the following error
: message:
: idl: 0402-021 Cannot run the command as specified.

I write lots of shell scripts, as you can do all kinds of looping operations that are more sophisticated than what you can do inside IDL, and I find that IDL leaks memory badly enough that I often have to restart it anyway in the middle of a job.

They usually go something like this (I know, I know, csh is broken -- pick your own interpreter)

```
----- clip here -----  
#!/bin/csh  
foreach foo( bag bar baz )  
sed -e "s/FLETCH/${foo}/" << ALLDONE | /usr/local/bin/idl  
[a bunch of IDL commands here, with the search pattern "FLETCH" instead  
of the targeted word ]  
ALLDONE  
----- clip here -----
```

I guess the point here is that you can send commands to idl on the standard input. IDL thinks it's running interactively, and you can send its stdout and stderr to a log file just like you Really Want To.

Cheers,
Craig

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Craig DeForest "My research group launched a rocket into space, and all I got was this lousy T-shirt"
