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Subject: Help needed on calling an IDL procedure from the Linux command line  
Posted by [Sanjay\[1\]](#) on Wed, 24 Aug 2005 20:59:29 GMT

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Hello all,

I have a question regarding calling IDL from a Linux command line. By testing this out directly, I know that an IDL code can indeed be called from the command line, e.g.:

```
$ idl test.pro
```

However, my limited experience indicates that this is not entirely successful if "test" is a procedure, i.e. if it starts with the line:

```
PRO test, input
```

In this case I get the following error: "Programs can't be compiled from a single statement mode". However, it seems not to matter too much (at least for my purposes), since IDL keeps going onto the next line anyway. But I don't know how to send the necessary variable "input" in this case.

So I was wondering: is it possible to pass input variables via a command line call? Can these be provided directly, or via an input file? I contacted David Fanning, and he suggested that this group would be a good source of information on this topic. Any help or information that you have on this would be greatly appreciated.

Take care,  
Sanjay

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