
Subject: Re: noop?

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Fri, 06 Apr 2007 18:12:58 GMT

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On Fri, 06 Apr 2007 11:37:14 -0500, Christopher Thom wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> Does IDL have some kind of noop statement? I'm looking for something to
> anchor breakpoints at a point where several control statements have their
> ends...

Hmm... if you set a breakpoint at a given location, IDL will move it to the first subsequent line where it can actually stop. Can you show an example of where it won't stop, when you want it to, and where you think it should be able to?

One related issue is the continued control statement vs. begin...end flavor control statement. Consider the former:

```
for i=0,100 do compute,i
```

vs. the latter:

```
for i=0,100 do begin  
  compute,i  
end
```

In the first case, IDL compiles the entire loop into a single block of code, which cannot be interrupted or stopped. In the latter case, you can set breakpoints, interrupt, etc. within the loop. For this reason as well, the first case is (modestly) faster (depending sensitively on how much is being **done** in each loop iteration).

JD
