Subject: Re: main or procedure
Posted by Carsten Lechte on Wed, 20 Jun 2007 14:24:56 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:
> If programs are written correctly, they don't have to
> be compiled manually, hence they work on ANY level. :-)

If programs were written correctly, there would be no need to
debug them in the first place. Since they aren't, there is a need,
hence the trap of writing some ad-hoc data displaying code to
find out why the program stopped, and running said code by
compiling it into a new main program (which is what IDLWAVE's
very useful idlwave-shell-run-region function will do).

Then realising you should have run the code by either entering
it into the command line, or putting it into a named function
or procedure. Then swear profusely at IDL for returning to the
main level and destroying all the data you would have needed
for proper error diagnostic.

Of all the crimes against usability, throwing away the
user's data without asking is one of the worst.

chl