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Subject: Re: Starting a for loop within an if loop  
Posted by [Wox](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2007 10:08:34 GMT  
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On Wed, 19 Dec 2007 19:57:50 -0800 (PST), Mat Smith  
<mat.smith@port.ac.uk> wrote:

```
> IF keyword_set(mc) THEN BEGIN
> FOR i=0,n-1 DO BEGIN
> t=d[i]
> ENDIF
>
> and later in the program
>
> IF keyword_set(mc) THEN BEGIN
> ENDFOR
> ENDIF
```

You're thinking of preprocessor directives like in e.g. C++

```
#ifdef <token>
/* code */
#endif
```

So at compile time it looks whether <token> is defined or not and includes or excludes code in compilation. Even if IDL would be compiled and have a preprocessor, you only know whether <token> is defined ("keyword is set" if you will) at runtime.

Btw, it's an "if statement" not an "if loop". I don't want to offend you, but I was glad someone told me that ones. Time to return the favour ;-).

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