
Subject: another IDL oddity

Posted by [Bringfried Stecklum](#) on Tue, 17 Feb 2009 15:57:32 GMT

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Folks, here is another one I recently stumbled upon. How about that

```
more ~/IDL/my_procedure.pro
pro my_procedure,arg
print,arg
end
```

```
within IDL
IDL> my_procedure,'Hello.world'
% Compiled module: MY_PROCEDURE.
Hello.world
IDL> exit
```

```
from bash
>echo my_procedure,'Hello.world'|idl
IDL Version 6.4 (linux x86_64 m64). (c) 2007, ITT Visual Information Solutions
Installation number: 12207.
Licensed for use by: TLS Tautenburg
```

```
% Compiled module: LOADCT.
% Compiled module: FILEPATH.
% Compiled module: PATH_SEP.
% Expression must be a structure in this context: HELLO.
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

This is just an example. In the real case, the argument is a file name with a suffix which IDL refuses to treat. The strange thing is that the argument is checked before the compilation of the procedure. The latter happens indeed

```
>echo my_procedure|idl
IDL Version 6.4 (linux x86_64 m64). (c) 2007, ITT Visual Information Solutions
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```

```
% Compiled module: LOADCT.
% Compiled module: FILEPATH.
% Compiled module: PATH_SEP.
% Compiled module: MY_PROCEDURE.
% PRINT: Variable is undefined: ARG.
% Execution halted at: MY_PROCEDURE      2 /home/stecklum/IDL/my_procedure.pro
%           $MAIN$
```

Any hints?

Regards, Bringfried
