
Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [Spon](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 10:18:11 GMT

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On Jun 1, 8:51 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Wouldn't you not need the "Pro" and "End" if it's not a program, just
> a script (such as when you use "Journal")?
> Also, leaving out the "return" should be fine, since there is only one
> level, right?
>
> Thanks.

Looks like you can't have loops or statements in batch files; every statement has to be complete, just like if you were using the command line.

So, this works fine, but your program does not:

```
---  
print, 'start while loop'  
    j=2  
while (j NE 10) do j=j+1  
  
print, 'done', j  
---
```

Have a look at the helpfile for 'Executing Batch Jobs in IDL', I guess.

I've always wondered why people even use batch mode, when procedures and functions are almost as easy to write. What is the advantage of batch mode?

No, you don't need the 'return', but what harm is it doing? Plus, if you decide to modify the code to pass variables or keywords to it later, you might wonder why they never come back. :-)

Chris
