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Subject: Newbie trying out IDL scripts

Posted by [John Yeukhon Wong](#) on Wed, 13 Jun 2012 19:13:21 GMT

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Hey guys,

I am an undergraduate student working on a scientific collaborative platform. One of the languages we supported is IDL.

We don't have X Windows setup properly. We have trouble doing that, and in fact we don't want windows to popup because we are running CRON jobs. SO everything has to be done on the background, and our front-end needs to display the results...

I found this script to do error catching, notify users that they their scripts are not compatible with our system...

[http://www.idlcoyote.com/code\\_tips/hasdisplay.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/code_tips/hasdisplay.html)

How do you use this to run a script called "plots.pro"? What should be put after the THEN? How should it be used?

At the end, I need to put that command in a .sh shell script file...

Example:

```
IDL> IF NOT CanConnect() THEN PRINT, "hello"
```

```
% WINDOW: Unable to connect to X Windows display: :0.0
```

```
hello
```

Okay.. this looks okay....

But, I don't need to run PRINT, I need to run a script....

I took my plots.pro and data file from here

<http://math.arizona.edu/~swig/documentation/idl/>

Tips?

Thanks

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