
Subject: Re: running IDL on a linux command line
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2013 04:15:49 GMT
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mkmvarma@gmail.com writes:

> I tried to run IDL using command line. It just compiles the program but does not run it. Does anybody know how to fix this. I use ".run" to run the program.

On of the (many) secrets of IDL is that the .RUN command doesn't really run anything. (Actually, it runs main-level programs, but most people don't know what these are, so it's not like it counts.) RUN is a hold-over from the BASIC language from the early 1970's, when it was used to run a BASIC program. But, the command only compiles IDL procedures and functions, and for that purpose it is better to use the eponymously named .COMPILE command. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
