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Subject: Re: quirk End of file encountered before end of program

Posted by [Yngvar Larsen](#) on Thu, 18 Dec 2014 07:57:11 GMT

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On Wednesday, 17 December 2014 11:28:38 UTC+1, LC's No-Spam Newsreading account wrote:

> On Mon, 15 Dec 2014, Yngvar Larsen wrote:

>

>> ! LC's No-Spam Newsreading account wrote:

>>>

>>> The original code I had (dating to several years ago, before anonymous

>>> structures were introduced) used in fact a much more complex mechanism.

>>

>> Wow. Are you sure? Both named and anonymous structures have been there

>> at least since IDL 4.0 (maybe even from the very beginning?), released

>> several decades ago.

> Actually the original scripts are dated 1996 (they could be older,

> possibly I wasn't using rsync to inherit things when I moved machine

> before then :-)). I am a sporadic but regular IDL user ... after all IDL

> was used by Giotto at the time of the last Halley comet pass (1986) ...

> although I started a bit later.

Old indeed! But in 1996, anonymous structures were definitely there. I started using IDL around that time myself.

Automatic structure definition via `CREATE_STRUCT(name=mystruct)` or `{mystruct}`, using a file `mystruct__define.pro` came later, I think.

>> In your case, I really don't see why you cannot use

>> `CREATE_STRUCT(tag1, value1, tag2, value2, ...)` directly.

>

> In fact I tested it, and now do it creating a long statement and using

> `execute statement` at the end.

>

>> `if init eq 0 then begin`

>> `struct = create_struct(tag, value)`

>> `init = 1`

>> `endif else begin`

>> `struct = create_struct(tag, value, struct)`

>> `endelse`

>

> Hmm ... this way you are PREpending new tags ...

`struct = create_struct(struct, tag, value)`

> and possibly creating a nested structure ?

No nesting here, unless one of your VALUES happen to be a structure.

> For me the issue is closed (happily)

Good for you. However, I will strongly advise to always reconsider your approach whenever you feel you need to use EXECUTE. This is almost always a sign that you are doing it wrong, or at least reinventing some of IDLs wheels.

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Yngvar

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