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Subject: Re: Compilation Error: Procedure header must appear first and only once  
Posted by [Markus Schmassmann](#) on Fri, 31 Mar 2017 13:22:51 GMT  
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On 03/30/2017 11:49 PM, Helder wrote:

> On Monday, June 20, 2016 at 8:46:15 PM UTC+2, jaromr...@gmail.com wrote:

>> I know this question is very old, but this was an error I was  
>> getting, and I could not find the solution. I eventually found in my  
>> case that this error was caused by a non-printed non-ASCII character at  
>> the beginning of the file. After copying the text and saving as a new  
>> file (fortuitously without the rogue character) the error disappeared.  
>> Subsequent comparisons between the two files revealed the error.

>>  
>> Posting here since this is high on the results lists in internet searches for this error message.

>>

>> On Monday, June 27, 2011 at 1:38:42 PM UTC-7, Maegereg wrote:

>>> [...] in both of the files, all

>>> the procedures and functions defined past a certain point produce the  
>>> following error on compilation:

>>> "% Procedure header must appear first and only once: ANALYZE \_ROI\_DATA

>>> At:..." (for example). Every function and procedure that's later in a  
>>> file than a function or procedure that's got that error gets it too.

>>> And if you were wondering about functions getting an error about  
>>> procedures, the functions all also get "Return statement in procedures  
>>> can't have values." I've been able to fix it by rearranging the  
>>> functions/procedures in a file (worked on one of the two files,  
>>> haven't tried it on the other), but I understand there are good  
>>> reasons to leave the command procedures/functions at the end of the  
>>> file.

>>>

>>> I've checked a number of possibilities: these aren't already defined  
>>> in the IDL libraries. I checked the procedures immediately before the  
>>> first erroneous procedure in both files, and all the begin statements  
>>> (and equivalents) seem to have corresponding end statements. The  
>>> program compiles fine in IDL 6.4 (I don't have a copy of 6.4, but I've  
>>> seen this program run, and have used it myself). I'm just about at the  
>>> end of things I can think of to try to fix this. Anyone have any  
>>> suggestions?

>

> I'll also add to this. I had the same problem and there where no missing "end".

> My thoughts:

> - this probably only happens if you use the IDLDE.

> - this happened to me copying and pasting a file from github.

> - between every procedure apparently a hidden character was added. Removing these "empty"  
lines between procedures solved the issue.

>

> Don't have time test "what" the hidden char is, but it surely happened

> as a result of the copying from github. I also know that there are other

> ways to clone into eclipse/IDLDE, but I didn't want to bother...

That happened a while back to me too, and I think I had a file where all my lines used to end with \n, but I copy-pasted some lines into it which ended on \r\n.

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