
Subject: procedure name quirk

Posted by [rother](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 00:17:56 GMT

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Dear Gurus,

as I had just failed to keep myself in lurking mode,
I want to come with a funny question (seems to
be difficult to search for by google):

it is possible to write a procedure named '!'.
I'm using one (in *nix) to have 'comment like'
print-statements in toplevel batches and functions
(can be switched of by '!quiet' here...):

PRO !, m

IF !quiet EQ 0 THEN return

help, calls = stack & n = n_elements(stack)

CASE n OF

2: print, '! '+m

ELSE: print, (strtok(stack[1], ' ', /ex))[0]+' ': '+m

ENDCASE

END

looks like

PRO test_bang

!, 'very much like a comment'

a = 0

!, 'and bye...'

return

END

works as:

(X). .r !.pro

(X). .r test_bang.pro

(X). !, 'a toplevel comment'

! a toplevel comment

(X). test_bang
TEST_BANG: like a comment
TEST_BANG: and bye...
(X). !quiet = 0
(X). test_bang
(X).

are there *other* 'special'-characters,
known to allow to be procedure names?

I tried with '+' to get a perlish 'die',
but that didn't work somehow...

best regards,
martin.

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