Subject: Re: Use of STOP inside an IF statement Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 17 Jun 2008 17:54:44 GMT

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Benjamin.R.Evans@gmail.com writes:

- > But the stop command will not work inside the IF statment but it will
- > work
- > outside the IF statment. I need it to be inside the IF statement so
- > that the program
- > stops if a message is printed out.

Are you sure you mean "STOP"? I would think you would want a RETURN here. But, in any case, there is no reason you can't have a STOP inside of an IF statement. It is identical to a breakpoint.

But I think there is something else going on here that is confusing you.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Use of STOP inside an IF statement Posted by Brian Larsen on Tue, 17 Jun 2008 18:01:12 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

- > But I think there is something else going on here that
- > is confusing you.

As is the norm, I think that David is right here. Your command: spawn, 'mkdir '+output_dir, message will not have any output unless there is an error in the creation. So the statement:

IF (string(message)) then begin is a little odd as you are testing "(nothing), with IF. You probably want something more like:

IF strlen(String(message)) ne 0 then begin ;; print an error message and go about you business

The reason that you are never hitting the STOP is that the IF

Cheers,	
Brian	
Brian Larsen Boston University Center for Space Physics	

Subject: Re: Use of STOP inside an IF statement Posted by Chris[5] on Tue, 17 Jun 2008 18:16:09 GMT

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http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL

On Jun 17, 7:46 am, Benjamin.R.Ev...@gmail.com wrote:

> I currently have:

statement is never true.

- >
- > spawn, 'mkdir '+output_dir, message
- > IF (string(message)) then begin
- > print, message
- > stop
- > ENDIF

>

- > But the stop command will not work inside the IF statment but it will
- > work
- > outside the IF statment. I need it to be inside the IF statement so
- > that the program
- > stops if a message is printed out.

>

> Any help would be appreciated.

>

> Ben

The code looks fine. Have you considered the fact that the if statement isn't true? For example, on my linux machine at least, if I call mkdir through spawn and attempt to create an illegal directory (one that already exists, for example), I get an error message printed directly to the terminal, but not returned to the message variable. In this case, your if loop fails to fire. The error message WOULD be displayed to the screen but, if this if statement is embedded in some sort of computationally intensive region of code, there tends to be a lag between when messages are sent to the the terminal and when they show up, leading you to think that it's not printing at all.

Subject: Re: Use of STOP inside an IF statement Posted by Brian Larsen on Tue, 17 Jun 2008 21:56:10 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

> spawn, 'mkdir '+output_dir, message

Ben,

the other thing that occurs to me is that you ought to use the IDL routine FILE_MKDIR not spawn for this application. It will be faster, more portable, and behave in the way that you want.

do a help on directory to see all the commands you can use.

Cheers,

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL

Subject: Re: Use of STOP inside an IF statement Posted by Jeremy Bailin on Wed, 18 Jun 2008 18:19:16 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On Jun 17, 1:46 pm, Benjamin.R.Ev...@gmail.com wrote:

> I currently have:

>

- > spawn, 'mkdir '+output_dir, message
- > IF (string(message)) then begin
- > print, message
- > stop
- > ENDIF

>

- > But the stop command will not work inside the IF statment but it will
- > work
- > outside the IF statment. I need it to be inside the IF statement so
- > that the program
- > stops if a message is printed out.

_			
>	Any help	would be	appreciated

> Ben

Why don't you just use the MESSAGE procedure, since it is virtually the same thing as a PRINT followed by a STOP?

-Jeremy.