
Subject: Delay in printing to screen
Posted by [mscutter](#) on Fri, 19 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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I'm running IDL for Windows and want to print information to the screen about the state of my program, eg my program might contain the lines:

```
print,'What data file do you want to restore?'
read,datafile
print,'Please wait while restoring data...'
restore,datafile
```

The problem I have is that the restore procedure, which may take quite a few seconds, is done before the message 'Please wait while restoring data...' is printed to the screen. I'd like it to be printed before the restore procedure is started. I have also tried using the message command with the keyword 'informational', but experience the same delay. The Reference Guide says that the !QUIET system variable controls the printing of informational messages, but I can't find any other references to this variable or how to change it so that messages are printed immediately to the screen. Does anyone know if the same thing happens when running IDL under UNIX or if there is a system variable or 'work around' I can use in Windows to remove this delay time?

Thanks,

Michele Scutter

End Of Message

Subject: Re: Delay in printing to screen
Posted by [peter](#) on Fri, 19 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article 3phbmeINN221@myall.awadi.com.au, mscutter@awadi.com.au (Michele Scutter) writes:

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A similar problem arises when plotting complicated graphics under X, where IDL sends off the plot commands then merrily continues, but the output of the commands doesn't appear until IDL returns to the prompt or to the xmanager.

The solution in that case is to place "WAIT, 0" after the plot command, which appears to sync everything up, flush buffers, whatever. Maybe it'll help you under Windoze.

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