
Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [Spon](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 07:38:44 GMT

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On Jun 1, 7:53 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:

> I have been tried several times to run the following script in (by
> calling it through a .pro file) but it always causes it to crash. It
> seems simple enough, yet I can't figure out why it won't work.

```
pro simpletest
print, 'start while loop'
  j=2
while (j NE 10) do begin
  print,j
  j=j+1
  print, j
endwhile
```

```
print, 'done'
return
end
```

```
> simpletest
start while loop
  2
  3
  3
  4
  4
  5
  5
  6
  6
  7
  7
  8
  8
  9
  9
  10
```

```
done
```

Works fine for me.

Regards,

Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [hovru](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 07:51:53 GMT

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On Jun 1, 12:38 am, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Jun 1, 7:53 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> I have been tried several times to run the following script in (by
>> calling it through a .pro file) but it always causes it to crash. It
>> seems simple enough, yet I can't figure out why it won't work.

>

> ---

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> print, 'start while loop'

> j=2

> while (j NE 10) do begin

> print,j

> j=j+1

> print, j

> endwhile

>

> print, 'done'

> return

> end

> ---

>

>> simpletest

>

> start while loop

> 2

> 3

> 3

> 4

> 4

> 5

> 5

> 6

> 6

> 7

> 7

> 8

> 8

> 9

> 9

> 10

> done
> ---
>
> Works fine for me.
>
> Regards,
> Chris

Wouldn't you not need the "Pro" and "End" if it's not a program, just a script (such as when you use "Journal")?
Also, leaving out the "return" should be fine, since there is only one level, right?

Thanks.

Subject: Re: while loop crashes
Posted by [Spon](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 10:18:11 GMT
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On Jun 1, 8:51 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Wouldn't you not need the "Pro" and "End" if it's not a program, just
> a script (such as when you use "Journal")?
> Also, leaving out the "return" should be fine, since there is only one
> level, right?
>
> Thanks.

Looks like you can't have loops or statements in batch files; every statement has to be complete, just like if you were using the command line.

So, this works fine, but your program does not:

```
---  
print, 'start while loop'  
    j=2  
while (j NE 10) do j=j+1  
  
print, 'done', j  
---
```

Have a look at the helpfile for 'Executing Batch Jobs in IDL', I guess.
I've always wondered why people even use batch mode, when procedures and functions are almost as easy to write. What is the advantage of batch mode?

No, you don't need the 'return', but what harm is it doing? Plus, if

you decide to modify the code to pass variables or keywords to it later, you might wonder why they never come back. :-)

Chris

Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [lila hadji](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 10:27:20 GMT

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On 1 juin, 12:18, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Jun 1, 8:51 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> Wouldn't you not need the "Pro" and "End" if it's not a program, just

>> a script (such as when you use "Journal")?

>> Also, leaving out the "return" should be fine, since there is only one

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>> Thanks.

>

> Looks like you can't have loops or statements in batch files; every

> statement has to be complete, just like if you were using the command

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>

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> ---

>

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> and functions are almost as easy to write. What is the advantage of

> batch mode?

>

> No, you don't need the 'return', but what harm is it doing? Plus, if

> you decide to modify the code to pass variables or keywords to it

> later, you might wonder why they never come back. :-)

>

> Chris

Actually, when you want to run a script, you can remove the pro line, and add (optionally) \$Main\$ at the beginning (to speed up the performances)

You can also remove the return line but you have absolutely to keep

```
the end line.  
; files simpletest.pro  
$Main$  
print, 'start while loop'  
    j=2  
while (j NE 10) do begin  
    print,j  
    j=j+1  
    print, j  
endwhile  
  
print, 'done'  
end
```

and all you have to do in IDL screen is tape .run simpletest.pro
Hope it helps a little
Cheers
Lila

Subject: Re: while loop crashes
Posted by [Juggernaut](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 13:47:41 GMT
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On Jun 1, 6:27 am, lila hadji <lhad...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On 1 juin, 12:18, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> On Jun 1, 8:51 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>> Wouldn't you not need the "Pro" and "End" if it's not a program, just
>>> a script (such as when you use "Journal")?
>>> Also, leaving out the "return" should be fine, since there is only one
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>
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>> statement has to be complete, just like if you were using the command
>> line.
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>> while (j NE 10) do j=j+1
>
>> print, 'done', j

```

>> ---
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>> I've always wondered why people even use batch mode, when procedures
>> and functions are almost as easy to write. What is the advantage of
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>> No, you don't need the 'return', but what harm is it doing? Plus, if
>> you decide to modify the code to pass variables or keywords to it
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>
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> and add (optionally) $Main$ at the beginning (to speed up the
> performances)
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> the end line.
> ; files simpletest.pro
> $Main$
> print, 'start while loop'
>     j=2
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>     print,j
>     j=j+1
>     print, j
> endwhile
>
> print, 'done'
> end
>
> and all you have to do in IDL screen is tape .run simpletest.pro
> Hope it helps a little
> Cheers
> Lila

```

These are the types of situations where I wish IDL had MATLABs capability of evaluating highlighted chunks of code.

Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 19:43:29 GMT

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On 6/1/10 7:47 AM, Bennett wrote:

```

> These are the types of situations where I wish IDL had MATLABs
> capability of evaluating highlighted chunks of code.

```

There is a "Run selected text" item in the context menu for selected text in the Workbench editor.

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com
Research Mathematician
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 19:49:42 GMT

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On 6/1/10 4:18 AM, Spon wrote:

> I've always wondered why people even use batch mode, when procedures
> and functions are almost as easy to write. What is the advantage of
> batch mode?

I think batch files have very special purpose uses:

1. You can include code into multiple function/procedure using batch files, e.g., error handling code that would normally be copy-and-pasted into many routines.

2. To make a build script callable from the main-level since you can put executive statements from batch files that are called from the main-level.

Any other uses for batch files? I go with main-level programs for a lot of simple/throw-away script stuff (since I can make it into a function/procedure fairly easily if I don't actually throw it away).

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com
Research Mathematician
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 01 Jun 2010 20:08:32 GMT

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On 6/1/10 4:27 AM, lila hadji wrote:

> Actually, when you want to run a script, you can remove the pro line,

> and add (optionally) \$Main\$ at the beginning (to speed up the
> performances)

I don't think your \$Main\$ line is doing anything, \$ is the continuation character in functions/procedures/main-level program and any characters that appear after it are ignored. For example:

```
pro test
  $This is a really confusing comment

  print, 5
end
```

This "continues" a blank line with the following blank line, making a valid (blank) IDL statement.

Mike
--
www.michaelgalloy.com
Research Mathematician
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: while loop crashes
Posted by [lila hadji](#) on Wed, 02 Jun 2010 06:03:33 GMT
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On 1 juin, 22:08, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> On 6/1/10 4:27 AM, lila hadji wrote:
>
>> Actually, when you want to run a script, you can remove the pro line,
>> and add (optionally) $Main$ at the beginning (to speed up the
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>
> pro test
>   $This is a really confusing comment
>
>   print, 5
> end
>
> This "continues" a blank line with the following blank line, making a
> valid (blank) IDL statement.
>
> Mike
```


> --www.michaelgalloy.com
> Research Mathematician
> Tech-X Corporation

Fair enough. I said what I was told sometimes ago by someone who's used to IDL since a long time. I guess we always should check things out for ourselves, don't we?!

Thank you very much for the explanation.

Cheers

Lila

Subject: Re: while loop crashes

Posted by [hovru](#) on Wed, 02 Jun 2010 08:48:32 GMT

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On Jun 1, 3:27 am, lila hadji <lhad...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On 1 juin, 12:18, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> On Jun 1, 8:51 am, hovru <h.rube...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>>> Wouldn't you not need the "Pro" and "End" if it's not a program, just
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>> ---

>

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> You can also remove the return line but you have absolutely to keep
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> ; files simpletest.pro
> \$Main\$
> print, 'start while loop'
> j=2
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> j=j+1
> print, j
> endwhile
>
> print, 'done'
> end
>
> and all you have to do in IDL screen is type .run simpletest.pro
> Hope it helps a little
> Cheers
> Lila

It seems awkward, but it makes sense.
Thanks for all the help.

Subject: Re: while loop crashes
Posted by [Juggernaut](#) on Wed, 02 Jun 2010 12:54:14 GMT
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On Jun 1, 3:43 pm, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On 6/1/10 7:47 AM, Bennett wrote:
>
>> These are the types of situations where I wish IDL had MATLABs
>> capability of evaluating highlighted chunks of code.
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> There is a "Run selected text" item in the context menu for selected
> text in the Workbench editor.
>

- > Mike
- > --www.michaelgalloy.com
- > Research Mathematician
- > Tech-X Corporation

I guess I just automatically thought they would never include it.
Hello productivity.
