
Subject: Re: IDL batch mode: Command line args?
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 31 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Mark Elliott (mark@mail.mmrrcc.upenn.edu) writes:

```
> I'd like to run IDL (from UNIX) in batch mode with a command
> like:
>
> unixprompt> idl batchprog.pro
>
> How can I provide additional arguments to be used by the batch
> program. For example, is there a syntax like:
>
> unixprompt> idl batchprog.pro inputfile.txt
>
> or
>
> unixprompt> idl batchprog.pro 5 3.78 "John Doe" 24.0
```

As far as I know, this can't be done the way you want to do it. You do have one other option, however. You can define environment variables for your input parameters. Then your batchprog.pro program calls GETENV to get the values of the environment variables before passing these onto the other programs that you want to run in batch mode.

Naturally, the return value from GETENV is a string, so you will have to take care to convert the value to a number, if that is what you want, etc. I've never tried it myself, but I think it is possible.

Cheers,

David

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