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Subject: Re: passing strings as arguments?  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 07 Jun 2001 19:25:53 GMT  
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noymer@socrates.Berkeley.EDU wrote:

>  
> I am using Ronn Kling's PLOTSYM, the usage of which is:  
>  
> plot,x,y,psym=plotsym(/circle,scale=2,/fill)  
>  
> instead of /circle, one could use /box, /triangle, etc...  
>  
> I have something like:  
>  
> IF (condition) THEN myshape=string('/circle') ELSE  
> myshape=string('/triangle')  
> ENDIF  
>  
> and I want to pass the string "myshape" to plotsym as the  
> first argument but I can't figure out how to do this in IDL 5.3.  
>  
> It seems not to like strings being passed there.  
>  
> TIA,  
> Andrew  
>  
> GOOGLE: you don't own this messgae I posted it with GNUS ha ha

Here is one of our plot symbol routines.  
It accepts numbers as well as strings.

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/download/icgsym\\_n.tar.gz](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/icgsym_n.tar.gz)

For further routines and licensing please have a look at  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

try:

```
x=findgen(10)
y=sin(x)
icgsym_n,'circle'
plot,x,y,psym=8
```

with icgsym\_n,/symhelp you get a list of numbers and names

e.g. 218 is a half filled circle

regards  
Reimar

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Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de  
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>  
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read something about linux / windows  
<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

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