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Subject: a simple hack!Re: How do I save parameters for next run?

Posted by [Yunxiang Zhang](#) on Mon, 05 Apr 2004 21:17:09 GMT

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Folks,

Thanks for all your input here. I was trying to look into Craig's library and see if I can come up with a solution. But it turned to be a little bit complicated for me. Today, I finally did it with a simple hack by appending the default data to the end of the .sav file. The code will read itself, the .sav file, to get the default value and after user input it will update the data appended. The only drawback is you can't run the program before you generate the .sav file and append the default data to the end of the .sav file. Here's how the code looks like,

PRO MYPRO

```
...
values=fltarr(n_para)
openr,lun,'mypro.sav',/append,/get_lun
point_lun,-lun,lunpos
point_lun,lun,lunpos-4*n_para
readu,lun,values
free_lun,lun

;function that returns user input parameters
finput=InputBoxes(title=mytitle,$
  prompts=prompts, values=values, labels=160)

openu,lun,'mypro.sav',/append,/get_lun
point_lun,-lun,lunpos
point_lun,lun,lunpos-4*n_para
writeu,lun,float(finput)
free_lun,lun
...
END
```

Cheers,  
Yunxiang

On Thu, 1 Apr 2004, Yunxiang Zhang wrote:

```
>
> Hi,
>
> Sorry for the confusion. I just want my stand alone application to have a
> small "memory" interactively. For example, I have a program, say,
> 'mypro.sav' and needs user to input a series of parameters, say p1, p2
> ...pn through an input gui. Then the program runs perfect. But then if
```

> the next run the user only need to change a small fraction of the  
> parameters, it would be nice that my program can have a small memory so  
> that my gui displays the parameters input last time and the user need  
> only change maybe one parameter and press 'enter' to continue the  
> rest of the calculations.  
>  
> The idea comes from my colleagues and I still can't think of a way without  
> creating some additional log file. Maybe somebody can tell me how to hack  
> the .sav file so that i can dock some data into a specific region without  
> breaking the .sav file.  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Yunxiang  
>  
> On Thu, 1 Apr 2004, Reimar Bauer wrote:  
>  
>> Craig Markwardt wrote:  
>>  
>>>  
>>> Reimar Bauer <R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de> writes:  
>>>> > Folks,  
>>>> >  
>>>> > I am wondering if I can save the user input parameters for the next  
>>>> > run of my program without creating additional files for it's "memory".  
>>>> >  
>>>> > Is it possible? Thanks.  
>>>> >  
>>>> > Yunxiang  
>>>> >  
>>>>  
>>>> Take a look on save and restore  
>>>  
>>> But he asked about not creating additional files. Not too many  
>>> options for that. If running on Unix, it's possible to wrap IDL in a  
>>> script, either Perl or Bourne shell or whatever, and then establish a  
>>> protocol for the script to capture your crucial outputs. Not elegant  
>>> but it could work.  
>>>  
>>> Craig  
>>  
>> I read twice things not right. He asked for user input parameters.  
>>  
>> But I can't answer how to do it without writing to a file.  
>>  
>> Did you know the idl journal command?  
>>  
>>> idl

```
>>
>> IDL> journal, 'my_user_journal.pro' start the journal file and
>> IDL> a=10
>> IDL>
>> IDL> journal ends recording the user inputs.
>> IDL> exit
>>
>>
>> Afterwards this file could be called again by @my_user_journal from the IDL>
>> prompt, And print,a gives 10.
>>
>>
>> Reimar
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
```

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