
Subject: Re: Command line arguments

Posted by [Mr. No Address](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 22:19:30 GMT

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Michael Wallace wrote:

>> I would like to compile the program once outside the loop and then pass
>> the file using an argument instead grabbing the file from an environment
>> variable. Can I do something like this?

>>

>> print IDL "mentor, \$filepath\n";

>

>

> Yes.

>

> Maybe I don't understand what you're doing, but why are you 1.)

> explicitly compiling the command your going to run instead of letting

> IDL automatically compile it? and 2.) why don't you write a wrapper in

> IDL itself that handles the looping and you just call the wrapper the

> one time instead of calling the same IDL command multiple times?

Thanks for the reply. With your post and Craig's above I was able to piece together what I was doing wrong. Still have problems, but I think that scope is now Perl. In any case, to address your questions above...

If I understand your first question above correctly, I'm compiling first because "Way back in the day" I was never able to successfully run code without compiling it first. I'm sure I was doing something wrong, but I got things to work this way and went with it. On #2, This time around I set out to write everything in IDL, but knowing a bit of Perl and not really knowing IDL, it was too easy to fall back on my Perl skills. Most of that had to do with the way Perl handles time, e.g., `timegm` and `gmtime`.

Cheers,

Gary

>

> My Perl is rusty, but a while back I wrote a Python wrapper to simulate

> command line arguments. I think I posted it in the newsgroup some time

> ago, but I couldn't find the old thread.

>

> The first argument to the program below is the name of the IDL command

> to execute. The remainder of the arguments will be fed to the IDL

> command named in the first argument. I have defined my IDL programs

> that need to be run on the command line to include the keyword `ARGS`. The

> additional arguments are passed into the IDL command using this

> keyword. By doing this, I can use this one wrapper for all command line

> programs, but the argument list is not bound to something specific.

>

```
> If I want to quickly do something and the program I want to run doesn't
> have an ARGS keyword, I can just put the entire IDL command I want to
> run in the first argument. Just quote the entire command so that it's
> interpreted as a single argument.
>
> -Mike
>
>
> #!/usr/bin/env python
>
> import os
> import sys
>
> # Usage statement
> usage = "usage: %s idlprog args" %os.path.basename(sys.argv[0])
>
> # Check that the name of the IDL program was provided
> if len(sys.argv) < 2:
>     print usage
> else:
>     fd = os.popen('idl', 'w')
>
>     # If extra arguments are given, pass them via the ARGS keyword
>     if len(sys.argv) < 3:
>         fd.write(sys.argv[1])
>     else:
>         fd.write(sys.argv[1] + ', ARGS = ' + `sys.argv[2:]`)
>
>     fd.close()
```
