Subject: Re: Length of command line input Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 17:47:32 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

TimLS wrote:

- > I couldn't find the answer to this in the online documentation but
- > perhaps someone has seen this before, or can suggest a good work
- > around.

>

- > I have a procedure which takes lots and lots of keywords, many of which
- > are really long filenames, e.g.
- > test program,input1='really long filename1',input2='really long filename2',....

>

- > Eventually IDLDE running under linux decides that it has had enough and
- > essentially only accepts the first 500 characters (approximately) that
- > have been typed into the command line. (Trying to run it as a batch
- > file has the same effect).

>

- > Is there a limit on the length of the command line, and is it possible
- > to extend it anyhow?

Hello,

Dunno about answers to your actual questions (sorry), but in batch mode, can't you recast things as:

```
input1='really_long_filename1'
input2='really_long_filename2'
...etc...
test_program,input1=input1,input2=input2,...etc...
```

Another approach (assuming your other arguments are also similar, i.e. filenames) would be to do:

```
input_files=strarr(nfiles); however many files you want to process this time input_files[0]='really_long_filename1' input_files[1]='really_long_filename2' ...etc... test_program,input_files=input_files
```

and then, in your program, test for the size of the input_files keyword after you've verified it's existence.

?

I am impressed that you've testing the too-long-command-line issue on the command line

itself (500 chars! Cripes.) -- but I think addressing the problem you're having by modifying your code is a path of much lower resistance.

And, another thing to consider; if you do figure out how to increase the available length of the command line, is there any guarantee that it will work on a different platform? Or even a different version of IDL/IDLDE?

paulv

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