
Subject: Re: Can IDL create a plain text file?

Posted by [Christopher Thom](#) on Thu, 14 Dec 2006 22:24:23 GMT

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Hmmmm. Well, printing the stuff to the file is easy

```
opewn, lun, 'myfile', /get_lun
printf, lun, "string in quotes"
free_lun, lun
```

To append a parameter, say the contents of a variable myvar, you could use:

```
str = "string in quotes"+strtrim(string(myvar),2)
printf, lun, str
```

the string() function converts myvar to a string, and strtrim() with the ",2" parameter trims the whitespace from the front and back. There are file_* routines that can help you construct the list of file -- see the help docs for those.

cheers
chris

Quoth Matt:

```
> I'm sorry david, it's not a trick question. I'm a geographer, not a
> programmer, and one with about 2 months of IDL experience under my belt
> to boot (and no other programming/scripting exposure at all). I think
> I'm learning quickly, considering, and am finishing preparations to
> process 4TB of satellite imagery. Nothing super high end, i'm sure, but
> challenging nonetheless (at least to me).
>
> A colleague mentioned that I should be able to create a text file in
> IDL. Thie file will then be used as a paramater file for an ERDAS
> Imagine script, which is called from IDL using SPAWN. Like I said
> before, I've seen this done with PERL but given my deadlines I don't
> have the time to go exploring PERL while still trying to learn IDL.
>
> Silly question, I'm sure, but a real one nonetheless...
>
> :-( indeed
>
> Matt
>
> On Dec 14, 4:13 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
```

>> Matt writes:
>>> Question - can IDL create a plain text file of a filelist following
>>> user specifications? By this I mean that I'd like a text file listing
>>> files in a directory, but would like to enclose file names in quotes
>>> and add additional text to it. I imagine that this can be done by
>>> calling a PERL script but I'm wondering if IDL can do it internally. This has GOT to be a trick
question. I just can't
>> see it though. :-(
>>
>> Cheers,
>>
>> David
>>
>> --
>> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
>> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
>
>
