
Subject: Re: pasting into IDL command line: limit at 1024 characters?

Posted by [Anthony\[1\]](#) on Sat, 01 Mar 2008 19:23:26 GMT

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On Mar 1, 2:58 am, metachronist <rkombi...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Mar 1, 11:56 am, metachronist <rkombi...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> On Feb 28, 8:46 am, pgri...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>>> Hi folks,

>

>>> has anybody noticed that there seem to be
>>> a maximum limit of about 1024 characters that you
>>> can copy into IDL's command line?
>>> I can copy more characters in any other xterm
>>> window I happen to have open, but if IDL is
>>> running, it doesn't like more than 1024 characters
>>> to be pasted into it.

>

>>> For example, if I try to paste this into the xterm where

>>> IDL is running:

>

>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> a='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> b='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
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>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '
>>> c='dummy string that is 64 bytes long counting the line break '

```
>
>>> it stops around the first c=, which is about 1024 bytes worth of data.
>>> Any idea how I can increase the maximum paste size?
>>> I am running IDL on an xterm on Mac OS 10.4.11,
>>> but I remember a similar problem on Linux systems.
>>> There is no problem pasting the test lines above inot other xterm
>>> windows.
>
>>> Cheers,
>>> Paolo
>
>> Sorry, I don't know if I am being helpful or not. Are you talking
>> about scrollback option in xterm? If so, you can set that by the
>> savelines option in your .Xdefaults file.
>> Hth,
>> /rk
>
> This might be helpful? Not sure..http://tldp.org/HOWTO/Keyboard-and-Console-HOWTO-18.ht
ml
```

Hi Paolo,

I don't have a solution but I've noticed the same thing. I've been sending commands from Python to IDL by launching IDL as a child process within Python (using Pexpect). I've found limits of 1024 bytes for sending a single line, but 2048 bytes if I split the line up and send it in pieces (like pasting twice). However, using IDL from the shell this happens:

```
[IDL 6.4]
IDL> x='aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa ... aaaa [keep typing/pasting until it
refuses further input]
IDL> print,strlen(x)
      4092
IDL> exit
% Internal error: buffer overrun in IDL_SFilePrintf() detected.
```

The paste limit seems to depend on the shell/terminal - e.g., using Terminal on the Mac and ssh-ing into a Linux machine, I'm able to paste the x='... command in full (4095 bytes). But using IDL on the Mac it complains after slightly more than 1024 bytes.

But, as you say, the problem is peculiar to IDL, not the shell/terminal in general.

Anthony
