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Subject: Re: Virtual machine question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 14 Jun 2008 20:58:17 GMT

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clivecook59@gmail.com writes:

```
> So i have a virtual machine application and i want to be able to pass
> a path to it when i run it. So for example,
>
> pro software, data_path
>
> blah
>
> blah
>
> end
>
> i then save this as a virtual machine program -> software.sav and i
> run it as,
>
> idl -vm=path+software.sav
>
> So my question is how do i pass the data_path?
```

You can't pass it directly into the program in the way you are trying to do it. Rather, you have to use a -arg command line switch on the IDL command you are using and pass it that way.

Inside your program, you can recover the command line argument (or arguments) using the function `COMMAND_LINE_ARGS`.

See the on-line help for "command line switches" for details.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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