Subject: Re: Opening variable files Posted by davidf on Thu, 30 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Chris Crabtree" <cecrabtr@artsci.wustl.edu> writes:

- > I am currently trying to write a widget based application
- > and I ran into a problem. I want the user to be able to open a file of
- > his or her choosing, but when I try to use the statement

> > openr, 1, filename

- where filename is a string (variable) I get a message saying that a scalar
- > value is expected. Is there any way to allow the user to enter in the new
- > file name without exiting the application and recompiling the program with
- > the new 'filename' inserted.

Chris, you probably got this filename from a text widget. When you get the value of a text widget, you always are returned a string \*array\*, even if there is only one "thing" in your text widget.

You can make your program work by typing this:

openr, 1, filename(0)

But this is lousy code. :-)

I'd use this:

OPENR, lun, filename(0), /GET\_LUN

This will save you some headaches down the road debugging your programs. Tell your advisor you need a copy of "Building Graphical User Interfaces in IDL", too. You can get it from RSI.

David

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