
Subject: Re: Substituting multiple strings into a program
Posted by [MightyMrFish](#) on Thu, 09 Aug 2012 19:37:41 GMT
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You'll have to forgive the lateness of my reply. I have access to the IDL programming software at certain times of the day.

I tried using that code, but issues arose. I couldn't get the graphs to be correct.

I think posting the code I'm using right now will help me explain what I want to do. It uses the READCOL.pro which can be found here: <http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/misc/readcol.pro>

CD, '[FOLDER]'; Replace [FOLDER] with the folder containing the data tables.

```
name ="
```

```
read, 'What is the filename to plot? (Write exactly as it appears.) ',name
```

```
; Defining "name" for the READCOL command. The user inputs the name of the
```

```
; data table file (so let's say Rex.dat just to be consistent).
```

```
READCOL, name, W1, W1Sigma, W2, W2Sigma, W3, W3Sigma, W4, W4Sigma, MJD, FORMAT  
= 'X,X,X,X,X,X,X,X, D, D, D, D, D, D, D, D, D'
```

```
; The W1, W1Sigma, etc. refer to columns of data. The data I'm really using is
```

```
; from the WISE observatory. The W's correspond to wavelengths.
```

```
!P.MULTI = [0,0,4,0,1] ; This makes it so there are 4 graphs on a "page".
```

```
PLOTERROR, MJD, W1, W1Sigma, psym=1, $
```

```
TITLE = 'W1', XTITLE = 'MJD', YTITLE = 'Mag.'
```

```
WAIT, .5
```

```
PLOTERROR, MJD, W2, W2Sigma, psym=1, $
```

```
TITLE = 'W2', XTITLE = 'MJD', YTITLE = 'Mag.'
```

```
WAIT, .5
```

```
PLOTERROR, MJD, W3, W3Sigma, psym=1, $
```

```
TITLE = 'W3', XTITLE = 'MJD', YTITLE = 'Mag.'
```

```
WAIT, .5
```

```
PLOTERROR, MJD, W4, W4Sigma, psym=1, $
```

```
TITLE = 'W4', XTITLE = 'MJD', YTITLE = 'Mag.'
```

```
WAIT, .5
```

```
; The WAIT isn't needed. The PLOTERROR command gives a plot
```

```
; with error bars.
```

```
set_plot, "ps"
```

```
set_plot, "x"
```

```
CD, '..'
```

```
CD, '[OUTPUT FOLDER]'
```

```
; Replace [OUTPUT FOLDER] with the name of the folder you want
```

```
; the graphs to come out of.
```

```
filename=~user/name'; Replace 'user' accordingly.  
write_png, name, tvrd()
```

```
CD, '..'
```

```
END
```

This .pro reads the data table file and spits out graphs according to what I need to be graphed. What I'd like is some way for me to not have to enter the names of each file. I have a list of the data files. I want to be able to have my .pro read one name off the list, assign it to "name", go through the command I've written to spit out a graph, then repeat with the next name on the list.
