Subject: passing strings as arguments?
Posted by noymer on Mon, 04 Jun 2001 20:54:01 GMT
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I am using Ronn Kling's PLOTSYM, the usage of which is:

plot,x,y,psym=plotsym(/circle,scale=2,/fill)

instead of /circle, one could use /box, /triangle, etc...

I have something like:

IF (condition) THEN myshape=string('/circle') ELSE
myshape=string('/triangle')
ENDIF

and I want to pass the string "myshape" to plotsym as the
first argument but I can't figure out how to do this in IDL 5.3.

It seems not to like strings being passed there.

TIA,
Andrew

GOOGLE: you don't own this messgae I posted it with GNUS ha ha

Subject: Re: passing strings as arguments?
Posted by mperrin+news on Mon, 04 Jun 2001 21:17:39 GMT
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noymer@socrates.Berkeley.EDU <noymer@socrates.Berkeley.EDU> wrote:
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Well, right. The argument "/circle" is just shorthand for "circle=1", which (a) is a numerical not a string parameter and (b) is part of the interpreted code rather than data. So you can't just pass in a string.

The easiest way to do this is probably with the "execute" command:

```
IF (condition) THEN myshape=string('/circle') ELSE
 myshape=string('/triangle')
ENDIF

commandstr = "plot,x,y,psym=plotsym("+myshape+",scale=2,/fill)"
result = execute(commandstr)
```

Alternatively, you could do something like:

```
IF (condition) THEN mytriangle=1 ELSE
 mycircle=1
ENDIF

plot,x,y,psym=plotsym(circle=mycircle, triangle=mytriangle,scale=2,/fill)
```

But that's a bit uglier and scales less well to multiple arguments.

- Marshall

Subject: Re: passing strings as arguments?
Posted by Liam E. Gumley on Tue, 05 Jun 2001 14:37:00 GMT
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noymer@socrates.Berkeley.EDU wrote:
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The following method exploits the fact that /keyword and keyword=1 are
equivalent:

```
;- Define keyword defaults
circle = 0
box = 0
triangle = 0

;- Set keyword values according to shape string
case shape of
  'circle'   : circle = 1
  'box'      : box = 1
  'triangle' : triangle = 1
  else       : message, 'Shape string not recognized'
endcase

;- Create plot
plot, x, y, psym=plotsym(scale=2, /fill, $
  circle=circle, box=box, triangle=triangle)
```

Cheers,
Liam.
http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/

Subject: Re: passing strings as arguments?
Posted by R.Bauer on Thu, 07 Jun 2001 19:25:53 GMT
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noymer@socrates.Berkeley.EDU wrote:
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Here is one of our plot symbol routines.
It accepts numbers as well as strings.

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_ html/dbase/download/icgsym_n.tar.gz

For further routines and licensing please have a look at
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.h tml

try:

```
x=findgen(10)
y=sin(x)
icgsym_n,'circle'
plot,x,y,psym=8
```

with icgsym_n,/symhelp you get a list of numbers and names

e.g. 218 is a half filled circle

regards
Reimar

--
Reimar Bauer

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Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/
========== ======
a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.h tml

http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html
========== ======

read something about linux / windows
http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html