
Subject: Capturing screen output

Posted by [David Shadovitz](#) on Tue, 20 Nov 2001 20:27:29 GMT

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I'm running IDL 5.4 on a Sun.

I've got a file, cpsub1, which looks like this:

```
$ cat cpsub1
echo "computePPP, /batch, inputfile='abc.hdf'" | idl
```

If I run it by simply typing cpsub1 at the command line, all of the IDL messages and PRINT statement outputs are sent to the screen:

```
$ cpsub1
% Compiled module: MODULE1
% Compiled module: MODULE2
% Compiled module: MODULE3
Entered main routine...
Computing the power...
Done.
$
```

I'd like to capture that information in a log file, so I tried redirecting standard output, like this:

```
$ cat cpsub2
echo "computePPP, /batch, inputfile='abc.hdf'" | idl > cplog2
```

```
$ cpsub2
% Compiled module: MODULE1
% Compiled module: MODULE2
% Compiled module: MODULE3
$
```

As you can see, now only the IDL messages are written to the screen. But the PRINT statement outputs aren't sent to the log file! Upon completion, cplog2 is a 0-byte file.

Then I tried redirecting both standard output and standard error:

```
$ cat cpsub3
echo "computePPP, /batch, inputfile='abc.hdf'" | idl > cplog3 2>&1
$ cpsub3
$
```

Now nothing is written to the screen. But neither is it going to the log file! Upon completion, cplog3 is a 0-byte file.

Can anyone help me capture the IDL messages and the PRINT statement output into a file? I'm running my code in this odd manner because ultimately I want to run the job in batch mode via 'ssub'.

Thanks.

-David Shadovitz

Subject: Re: Capturing screen output

Posted by [David Shadovitz](#) on Mon, 26 Nov 2001 20:39:18 GMT

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Wow! I ran the same test under IDL 5.2.1 on the same machine, and it worked! So I wonder whether it is an IDL 5.4 bug, as you suggest, or whether our admins somehow blew it on the installation. I'll start a new thread, asking other Solaris / IDL 5.4 users to try this out.

Thanks.

-David

"Liam E. Gumley" wrote:

```
> Your example works fine for me in Solaris 7 with IDL 5.3:
>
> $ cat runidl
> print, 'Hello world'
> exit
>
> $ idl runidl
> IDL Version 5.3 (sunos sparc). (c) 1999, Research Systems, Inc.
>
> Hello world
>
> $ idl runidl > runidl.out
> IDL Version 5.3 (sunos sparc). (c) 1999, Research Systems, Inc.
>
> $ cat runidl.out
> Hello world
>
> This might be a platform specific bug in IDL 5.4 on Solaris. You might
> want to check with RSI tech support.
```

Subject: Re: Capturing screen output

Posted by [Heike Koch-Beuttenmue](#) on Tue, 27 Nov 2001 09:13:59 GMT

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David Shadovitz wrote:

```
>
> Wow! I ran the same test under IDL 5.2.1 on the same machine, and it worked! So I
> wonder whether it is an IDL 5.4 bug, as you suggest, or whether our admins somehow
> blew it on the installation. I'll start a new thread, asking other Solaris / IDL
> 5.4 users to try this out.
>
> Thanks.
> -David
>
> "Liam E. Gumley" wrote:
>
>> Your example works fine for me in Solaris 7 with IDL 5.3:
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>> $ cat runidl.out
>> Hello world
>>
>> This might be a platform specific bug in IDL 5.4 on Solaris. You might
>> want to check with RSI tech support.
```

I tried it with IDL 5.4 both under Solaris 2.8 and 2.9 beta and got the same effect. pwwave 7.5 works. So I think it is an IDL problem. I did not try the solution of Ken because I think it must be done easier.

Heike

Subject: Re: Capturing screen output (stdout/stderr redirect problem)

Posted by [Gary Swift](#) on Thu, 29 Nov 2001 10:05:50 GMT

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```
> David Shadovitz wrote:
> I'd like to capture that information in a log file, so I tried
> redirecting standard output, like this:
>
> $ cat cpsub2
```

```

> echo "computePPP, /batch, inputfile='abc.hdf'" | idl > cplog2
>
> [snip]
>
> As you can see, now only the IDL messages are written to the screen.
> But the PRINT statement outputs aren't sent to the log file! Upon
> completion, cplog2 is a 0-byte file.
>
> Then I tried redirecting both standard output and standard error:
>
> $ cat cpsub3
> echo "computePPP, /batch, inputfile='abc.hdf'" | idl > cplog3 2>&1
> $ cpsub3
> $
>
> Now nothing is written to the screen. But neither is it going to the
> log file! Upon completion, cplog3 is a 0-byte file.

```

...

```

>>
>> Wow! I ran the same test under IDL 5.2.1 on the same machine, and it worked! So I
>> wonder whether it is an IDL 5.4 bug, as you suggest, or whether our admins somehow
>> blew it on the installation. I'll start a new thread, asking other Solaris / IDL
>> 5.4 users to try this out.

```

There is a bug in IDL 5.4 for Solaris (on SPARC only, not x86 I think) with redirecting stdout or stderr. RSI says it's been fixed in 5.5. The workaround is to do a

```
flush, -1
```

and/or

```
flush, -2
```

whenever you care about the output. I suspect this is your problem. We've been adding the flushes routinely at the end of our event managers, just in case, especially if something does a spawn of a UNIX command.

Hope that solves your problem.

-- Gary Swift

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