
Subject: Re: redirecting output
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 09:20:43 GMT
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On Thu, 15 Jul 2004 18:57:38 -0700, KL wrote:

> Hi,
> anyone know how I can redirect output from the idl command line to a file?
>
> eg. if idl understood unix style redirect, this might look something like
>
> IDL> print, structure.name > filename
>
> thanks,

Depending on what you want to do, you might be able to use the JOURNAL command.

E.g.

```
journal,'filename'      ; opens a journal into filename
journal,structure.name ; writes structure.name to the journal
journal                 ; closes the journal
```

However, journal has side-effects which might not meet your requirements.

--

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Subject: Re: redirecting output
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 15:02:46 GMT
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kl_tah@hotmail.com (KL) writes:

> Hi,
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>
> eg. if idl understood unix style redirect, this might look something like
>
> IDL> print, structure.name > filename

Nigel had a good suggestion.

There's also the good ole' open-print-close approach, as in,

```
openw, unit, filename, /get_lun
print, unit, structure.name
...
free_lun, unit
```

Or, you could capture the output in a string and then save it later.
I use this all the time with my PRINTLOG routine,

```
printlog, log=log, structure.name
printlog, log=log, structure.value, format='(G9.2)'
...
```

and then you can do anything with the LOG array that you want. It's just an array of strings, containing a transcript of what you printed to it.

Good luck,
Craig

P.S. PRINTLOG is at:
<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html>

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: redirecting output
Posted by [cedricl](#) on Fri, 16 Jul 2004 20:28:53 GMT
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kl_tah@hotmail.com (KL) wrote in message
news:<9af2bc14.0407151757.3142ab13@posting.google.com>...

```
> Hi,
> anyone know how I can redirect output from the idl command line to a file?
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```

You can call a function from the Unix prompt with:

```
somehost% IDL somefunction
```

I think that you should be able to redirect the output with a >.

Otherwise, use `printf "somefunction, someparameters" | IDL > output.txt` (or something like that). If you don't follow the IDL rule of one function per file, you can write your tasks in a batch file, and have it run with

```
printf "@mybatch" | IDL
```

In the file `mybatch`, you can compile functions as you wish with `.comp`.

It's a little complicated, but I've researched alternatives and haven't found any. BTW, this is also how I automate the queueing of IDL commands to run in the background as separate IDL processes, using `at`.

HTH,

Cedric
