
Subject: Command line arguments

Posted by [Mr. No Address](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2005 20:27:29 GMT

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Way back in the day I posted a very similar question. Someone gave me a solution using environment variables that has worked fine all this time, but now I'm updating things and I'm seeking a cleaner solution. Here we go...

I have a Perl program that I compile and run an IDL program from. I'm now looping through several hundred times and it seems wasteful to compile the IDL program every loop.

The relevant Perl code...

```
$ENV{"file"}="$filepath";  
open(IDL, "|/usr/local/bin/idl") || die "Can't open IDL: $!";  
print IDL ".Compile mentor \n";  
print IDL "mentor \n";  
close IDL;
```

The relevant IDL code...

```
PRO mentor  
file=GETENV('file')
```

I would like to compile the program once outside the loop and then pass the file using an argument instead grabbing the file from an environment variable. Can I do something like this?

```
print IDL "mentor, $filepath\n";
```

I found a link with google that describes what I want to do. Judging from the errors I'm getting I'd say I'm close, but as with most programming errors, close still doesn't work. If this can be done, I'm guessing I need to add something to my IDL code. I hope the link below works. If not, google "passing args idl" select groups and select the fourth link down "IDL batch mode: Command line args?"

```
http://groups-beta.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/47c013740c2cc376/627e5899522d54e8?q=passing+args+idl&_done=%2Fgroups%3Fq%3Dpassing+args+idl%26hl%3Den%26lr%3D%26tab%3Dng%26ie%3DUTF-8%26sa%3DN%26&_doneTitle=Back+to+Search&&d#627e5899522d54e8
```

Subject: Re: Command line arguments

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 21 Feb 2005 20:20:58 GMT

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JD Smith writes:

- > You'd be surprised how many people I know compile their routines by
- > hand, not once, but *twice*, just for good measure. This is what a
- > lifetime of IRAF can do to a person.

Oh, I'm pretty much incapable of being surprised about things like this. This is one of the reasons I have to attend that 12-step program for cynics on Tuesday nights. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [Spon](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 16:41:04 GMT

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On Sep 29, 5:01 pm, xiao <littledd...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > HI~ guys , is these lines right? Why I cannot open the file based on
- > the following errors. I know the file is there :(Thank you

>

- > filename=command_line_args()

- > print,filename

- > file='filename'

- > OPENR, lun, file, /GET_LUN

- > rows = File_Lines(file)

- > header = STRARR(14)

- > READF, lun, header

- > PRINT, header

- > Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation

>

- > Or like this?

>

- > filename=command_line_args()

- > print,filename

- > OPENR, lun, 'filename', /GET_LUN

- > rows = File_Lines('filename')

- > header = STRARR(14)

- > READF, lun, header

- > PRINT, header

- > Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation

What exactly are the errors you mention you're getting?

Also, what do you get when you type this?

```
filename=command_line_args(count=count)
help, filename
print, transpose(filename)
print, 'Count:', Count
```

What are you using the following line for?

```
file='filename'
```

If you want to extract the first string from the string array returned by the `command_line_args()` function, I would use `file = filename[0]` instead.

Apart from that - as it stands, I would say that yes, these lines are probably right in that I can't find an obvious coding error there, but it depends on what you're trying to do!

Tell us more :-)

Chris

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [xiao zhang](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 18:32:09 GMT

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On Sep 29, 11:41 am, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Sep 29, 5:01 pm, xiao <littledd...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> HI~ guys , is these lines right? Why I cannot open the file based on

>> the following errors. I know the file is there :(Thank you

>

>> filename=command_line_args()

>> print,filename

>> file='filename'

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>> READF, lun, header

>> PRINT, header

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>

```

>> Or like this?
>
>> filename=command_line_args()
>> print,filename
>> OPENR, lun, 'filename', /GET_LUN
>> rows = File_Lines('filename')
>> header = STRARR(14)
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>> PRINT, header
>> Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation
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> What exactly are the errors you mention you're getting?
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> file='filename'
>
> If you want to extract the first string from the string array returned
> by the command_line_args() function, I would use
> file = filename[0]
> instead.
>
> Apart from that - as it stands, I would say that yes, these lines are
> probably right in that I can't find an obvious coding error there, but
> it depends on what you're trying to do!
>
> Tell us more :-))
> Chris

```

I did it like this :

```
idl -arg D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol
```

And then

```

IDL> .r upperdata.pro
% Compiled module: $MAIN$.
D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol
% OPENR: Error opening file. Unit: 100, File: filename
  No such file or directory

```

It can print the right name but did not open the file.....

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [xiao zhang](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 18:34:23 GMT

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On Sep 29, 11:41 am, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Sep 29, 5:01 pm, xiao <littledd...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Hi~ guys , is these lines right? Why I cannot open the file based on

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>> Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation

>

>> Or like this?

>

>> filename=command_line_args()

>> print,filename

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>> header = STRARR(14)

>> READF, lun, header

>> PRINT, header

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>

> What exactly are the errors you mention you're getting?

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> filename=command_line_args(count=count)

> help, filename

> print, transpose(filename)

> print, 'Count:', Count

>

> What are you using the following line for?

>

> file='filename'

>
> If you want to extract the first string from the string array returned
> by the command_line_args() function, I would use
> file = filename[0]
> instead.
>
> Apart from that - as it stands, I would say that yes, these lines are
> probably right in that I can't find an obvious coding error there, but
> it depends on what you're trying to do!
>
> Tell us more :-)
> Chris

It gave me the following stuff

```
IDL> .r upperdata.pro
% Compiled module: $MAIN$.
FILENAME      STRING  = Array[1]
D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol
Count:        1
D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol
% OPENR: Error opening file. Unit: 100, File: filename
  No such file or directory
```

Subject: Re: command line arguments
Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 18:58:10 GMT
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Try it by passing the full path, not just the filename.

-Rick

xiao wrote:

> I did it like this :
>
> idl -arg D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol
>
> And then
>
> IDL> .r upperdata.pro
> % Compiled module: \$MAIN\$.
> D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol
> % OPENR: Error opening file. Unit: 100, File: filename
> No such file or directory
>
> It can print the right name but did not open the file.....

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [xiao zhang](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 19:04:18 GMT

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On Sep 29, 1:58 pm, Rick Towler <rick.tow...@nomail.noaa.gov> wrote:

> Try it by passing the full path, not just the filename.

>

> -Rick

>

> xiao wrote:

>> I did it like this :

>

>> idl -arg D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol

>

>> And then

>

>> IDL> .r upperdata.pro

>> % Compiled module: \$MAIN\$.

>> D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol

>> % OPENR: Error opening file. Unit: 100, File: filename

>> No such file or directory

>

>> It can print the right name but did not open the file.....

>

>

Seems it still does not working...

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 19:13:37 GMT

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xiao writes:

> Seems it still does not working...

Try hard-coding the file name in your program. Does it work then? :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 19:36:34 GMT

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On Sep 29, 2:04 pm, xiao <littledd...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Sep 29, 1:58 pm, Rick Towler <rick.tow...@nomail.noaa.gov> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Try it by passing the full path, not just the filename.

>

>> -Rick

>

>> xiao wrote:

>>> I did it like this :

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>>> idl -arg D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol

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>>> And then

>

>>> IDL> .r upperdata.pro

>>> % Compiled module: \$MAIN\$.

>>> D20051210_220601_P.QC.eol

>>> % OPENR: Error opening file. Unit: 100, File: filename

>>> No such file or directory

>

>>> It can print the right name but did not open the file.....

>

> Seems it still does not working...

You want to use filename (no quotes). 'filename' is the literal string. filename is the variable.

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Mon, 29 Sep 2008 20:22:29 GMT

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> filename=command_line_args()

> print,filename

> file='filename'

> OPENR, lun, file, /GET_LUN

do

OPENR, lun, filename, /GET_LUN

> rows = File_Lines(file)


```
> header = STRARR(14)
> READF, lun, header
> PRINT, header
> Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation
>
> Or like this?
>
> filename=command_line_args()
> print,filename
> OPENR, lun, 'filename', /GET_LUN
> rows = File_Lines('filename')
> header = STRARR(14)
> READF, lun, header
> PRINT, header
> Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation
>
>
>
```

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [xiao zhang](#) on Tue, 30 Sep 2008 02:10:06 GMT

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On Sep 29, 2:13 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

```
> xiao writes:
>> Seems it still does not working...
>
> Try hard-coding the file name in your program. Does
> it work then? :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
```

YES, it works. thank you ~~~every one :)

Subject: Re: command line arguments

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 30 Sep 2008 02:21:37 GMT

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xiao writes:

> On Sep 29, 2:13 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>> xiao writes:
>>> Seems it still does not working...
>>
>> Try hard-coding the file name in your program. Does
>> it work then? :-)
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>> Cheers,
>>
>> David
>> --
>> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
>> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
>
> YES, it works. thank you ~~~every one :)

Problem solved. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
