
Subject: Re: VM command line parameters
Posted by [greg michael](#) on Fri, 11 Aug 2006 11:33:09 GMT
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Seems I didn't word that question so well...

I have a function like this:

```
age_fit,crater_count_file,polynom_file,poly_index,chron_file ,chron_index,fit_range
```

which outputs text a file with some values for an external program. I'd like the user to be able to call this routine through the VM to get the output file.

So is there a way to type something like:

```
idl -vm=age_fit.sav  
crater_count_file,polynom_file,poly_index,chron_file,chron_index,fit_range
```

?

Otherwise I suppose I can put them in a file and use David's programrootdir to get them out.

thanks for any suggestions,
Greg

greg michael wrote:

> Is it possible to pass command line parameters to a virtual machine
> routine? What's the syntax for that?
>
> regards,
> Greg

Subject: Re: VM command line parameters
Posted by [btt](#) on Fri, 11 Aug 2006 12:47:16 GMT
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greg michael wrote:

> Seems I didn't word that question so well...
>
> I have a function like this:
>
> age_fit,crater_count_file,polynom_file,poly_index,chron_file ,chron_index,fit_range
>
> which outputs text a file with some values for an external program. I'd

> like the user to be able to call this routine through the VM to get the
> output file.
>
> So is there a way to type something like:
>
> idl -vm=age_fit.sav
> crater_count_file,polynom_file,poly_index,chron_file,chron_index,fit_range
>
> ?
>
> Otherwise I suppose I can put them in a file and use David's
> programrootdir to get them out.
>
Hi,

You might look into the newish command line switches ...

IDL> ?command line switches

I haven't tried these with a VM but it seems like a nice fit.

Ben

Subject: Re: VM command line parameters
Posted by [greg michael](#) on Fri, 11 Aug 2006 15:02:54 GMT
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Thanks very much, Ben - that works. You have to write an extra section to decode the arguments from strings, but it's way better than using a file. Works like this, where age_fit0 is the original routine:

```
idl -vm=age_fit.sav -args crater_count_file polynom_file poly_index  
chron_file chron_index fit_range
```

```
pro age_fit  
  cla=command_line_args(count=count)  
  crater_count_file=cla[0]  
  polynom_file=cla[1]  
  poly_index=fix(cla[2])  
  chron_file=cla[3]  
  chron_index=fix(cla[4])  
  fit_range=float([cla[5],cla[6]])
```

```
age_fit0,crater_count_file,polynom_file,poly_index,chron_file,chron_index,fit_range  
end
```
