
Subject: not so IDL related... Command line auto-feed
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Mon, 07 Jul 2008 23:00:07 GMT
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Hi all,

sorry for the misuse of this forum... though one of the smart here may be of great help!

Ok, I have to process about 200 files though a program called dem2xyzn (for USGS DEM files). This program runs only under windows (and dos), and have basically no support. You start the program, then it ask for the name of the input file, then for the name of the output file, then if you are sure you want to continue etc.

I want to automate all of this...

There seems to be no way of specifying the parameters values (input, output) when calling the program.

Is there a way to have a text being written in the current dos window? something that would look like, in pseudo-code:

- call the program
- write input1
- write input2
- write any letter to tell the prog to continue
- =start again with another set of input?

I have tried to do a batch file, but the "write input1" get executed after the program has resumed...

Any help of hints would be greatly appreciated!!!
Jean

Subject: Re: not so IDL related... Command line auto-feed
Posted by [jeffnettlles4870](#) on Tue, 08 Jul 2008 21:28:36 GMT
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On Jul 7, 7:00 pm, Jean H <jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote:

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> Jean

So is all of this happening at the command prompt? If it is, you might try making a text file with each line being the input that the program needs, then call the program with something like this:

```
program_name <input_params_text_file.txt >output_text_file.txt
```

This is also specifying a file to capture the output, which you may or may not need.

What i'm doing here is just redirecting standard input and standard output. Hope that somehow works....it's been a while since i used that kind of thing (anyone remember ATREM?)!

Jeff

Subject: Re: not so IDL related... Command line auto-feed
Posted by [jeffnettles4870](#) on Wed, 09 Jul 2008 00:21:46 GMT
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On Jul 7, 7:00 pm, Jean H <jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote:

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> Jean

Are you doing everything (including specifying input & output parameters) at the command line? If so, you might be able to stick the input parameters in a text file (1 param per line) and do the same for any output params. Then run a command like this:

```
program_name <input_params.txt >output_params.txt
```

This is just redirecting standard input and standard output, but last time i checked (admittedly, this has been quite a while) you can still do it at the windows command prompt.

Hope it helps,
Jeff

Subject: Re: not so IDL related... Command line auto-feed
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Wed, 09 Jul 2008 16:38:04 GMT
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Jeff N. wrote:

> On Jul 7, 7:00 pm, Jean H <jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca>

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> Jeff

Thanks, it works perfectly!

Jean