
Subject: Re: Opening/displaying a text file
Posted by [Gaurav](#) on Mon, 19 Jan 2009 12:18:52 GMT
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On Jan 19, 3:51 pm, jimmyb...@gmail.com wrote:
> Hi, I'm writing a GUI for some code in IDL and want to include a help
> document. Is there a command to open say a .txt file?
>
> To explain a bit further: I've tried openu, but that doesn't display
> the file. Do I need to read in the text and re-display it or can I use
> a command to open that .txt file, as if it were opened separate of
> IDL?

Yes, you can easily do that. Try:

SPAWN, 'notepad.exe c:\myFolder\myFile.txt', /noshell, /nowait

Cheers,
Gaurav

Subject: Re: Opening/displaying a text file
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Mon, 19 Jan 2009 12:25:02 GMT
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jimmybobs@gmail.com schrieb:
> Hi, I'm writing a GUI for some code in IDL and want to include a help
> document. Is there a command to open say a .txt file?
>
> To explain a bit further: I've tried openu, but that doesn't display
> the file. Do I need to read in the text and re-display it or can I use
> a command to open that .txt file, as if it were opened separate of
> IDL?
>
> Thanks!

look at xdisplayfile

cheers
Reimar

Subject: Re: Opening/displaying a text file
Posted by [jimmybobs](#) on Mon, 19 Jan 2009 13:50:07 GMT
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On 19 Jan, 12:18, Gaurav <selfishgau...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Jan 19, 3:51 pm, jimmyb...@gmail.com wrote:
>
>> Hi, I'm writing a GUI for some code in IDL and want to include a help
>> document. Is there a command to open say a .txt file?
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>> To explain a bit further: I've tried openu, but that doesn't display
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> Yes, you can easily do that. Try:
>
> SPAWN, 'notepad.exe c:\myFolder\myFile.txt', /noshell, /nowait
>
> Cheers,
> Gaurav

Brilliant, worked like a charm- thanks!

Subject: Re: Opening/displaying a text file
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Tue, 20 Jan 2009 09:17:26 GMT
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[cut to size in various places]

On Jan 19, 2:50 pm, jimmyb...@gmail.com wrote:
> On 19 Jan, 12:18, Gaurav <selfishgau...@gmail.com> wrote:

>>> Do I need to read in the text and re-display it or can I use
>>> a command to open that .txt file, as if it were opened separate of
>>> IDL?
>
>> Yes, you can easily do that. Try:
>
>> SPAWN, 'notepad.exe c:\myFolder\myFile.txt', /noshell, /nowait
>
> Brilliant, worked like a charm- thanks!

Be sure to test for the OS before attempting this. Never say your code will never be used on Linux/Mac/... and spawns like this will cause trouble later on. Use !version.os_family or !version.os to select the correct OS you will use this on. In your case you may want to provide this functionality only on Windows (at least I think that that is the correct identifier, check for yourself):

```
if !version.os_family eq 'windows' then begin  
spawn, notepad.exe c:\myFolder\myFile.txt', /noshell, /nowait
```

```
endif else begin  
print, 'functionality not supported'  
endelse
```

By the way, on the mac the command would be:

```
spawn, "open '" + filepath + "'"
```
