
Subject: Library/Functions to write configuration file for application

Posted by [Robin Wilson](#) on Mon, 31 Jan 2011 19:05:35 GMT

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Hi,

I've written a fairly complex piece of modelling software in IDL, and the model requires a number of parameters to run (input and output files as well as various numerical parameters).

I want to be able to run this model from a batch file, and would like to have a configuration file in which I specify all of these parameters and then all I have to do is give the model the name of the configuration file.

What I was wondering is whether there are any libraries/sets of functions in IDL that would help with reading and writing these configuration files? I know that a number of programming languages either have inbuilt functions for writing configuration files or some add-ons which do that - do any of these exist for IDL?

I could knock up some simple file reading/writing code, but that would make it rather difficult if I changed the order/number of variables in the file, as I'd probably have to read some lines as strings and some as floats, ints etc, and I could see it getting very complicated and difficult to maintain.

Any ideas?

Cheers,

Robin

Robin Wilson

A PhD student studying complexity in remote sensing

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Subject: Re: Library/Functions to write configuration file for application

Posted by [greg.addr](#) on Wed, 02 Feb 2011 14:55:06 GMT

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> Just one minor problem: my university hasn't yet got IDL 8, so I don't
> have access to hashes (I believe they were introduced in version 8).
> I'll have a look at the code tomorrow and see if I can convert it to use
> anonymous structures.

Here's another possibility - `gm_read_textstructure` - it reads this

kind of file into a structure. As well as scalar values, it can handle appropriately formatted vectors, tables and structure arrays.

gm_read_textstructure from here: <http://hrscview.fu-berlin.de/idl.html>

There's a sample text file in the directory to show the different data structure formats.

Greg

Subject: Re: Library/Functions to write configuration file for application

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 03 Feb 2011 13:43:24 GMT

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Am 31.01.2011 20:05, schrieb Robin Wilson:

> Hi,

In the ICG library there are some routines which may be interesting

for reading:

*
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/read_ini_dbase.pro.html

*
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/read_ini_file_dbase.pro.html

and writing:

*
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/write_ini_dbase.pro.html

cheers

Reimar

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> Robin
>
> -----
> Robin Wilson
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