
Subject: check if other routine is writing a text file
Posted by [hoiting2008](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2014 01:14:24 GMT
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Hi,

I'm trying to read/write the same text file with multiple IDL prompts. The different prompts usually read/write the file at different time, but there is a tiny chance that they read/write at the same time. Is there any keywords or routines that can test if other program is using the file?

Ideally, I'd like to do something like this:

```
test_if_someone_writing?  
  yes: wait for 3 seconds and try again  
  no: go ahead and read/write
```

Thanks!
