
Subject: idl print call

Posted by [audrey.schaufelberger](#) on Sun, 26 Mar 2017 12:32:01 GMT

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Hey!

I am running an IDL procedure that is called several times from a bash script, each time with varying parameters. The output of each call is written to a separate file.

Is it possible to write at the beginning of the output file the call itself? I use the time stamp in the file name to discern the different calls, but it is annoying to check the time stamps each time to know which file belongs to which call...

best,
Audrey

Subject: Re: idl print call

Posted by [Markus Schmassmann](#) on Mon, 27 Mar 2017 11:26:31 GMT

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On 03/26/2017 02:32 PM, audrey.schaufelberger@gmail.com wrote:

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> bash script, each time with varying parameters. The output of each
> call is written to a separate file.
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> itself? I use the time stamp in the file name to discern the
> different calls, but it is annoying to check the time stamps each
> time to know which file belongs to which call...

Hi Audrey

I don't think there is a general way to do retrieve the file call, some foreknowledge is required.

From within IDL it is probably not possible to know how you capitalized the name of the procedure you started, whether you passed your arguments by e.g. '-arg aaa -arg bbb' or '-args aaa bbb', and in general it won't be possible to know what your arguments were before shell expansion. Furthermore, IDL won't know whether you nice'd the call or whether you piped the output to a log, and some other things I probably missed.

Knowing what your bash script does should make it rather easy to construct the call from the list of arguments.

How to get to the list of arguments should become clear when reading the procedure below, some easy examples of probable calls are included too. Should you really need the actual call without using any foreknowledge, use

spawn, 'history', out
and then parse out .

I hope that helps, Markus

for demonstration purposes enter in bash:

```
idl -e procedure_fromBash -args test one two
idl -e "procedure_fromBash, ['test','one','two']"
echo "test" > args4IDL
echo "one" >> args4IDL
echo "two" >> args4IDL
idl -e procedure_fromBash
rm args4IDL
```

```
;;; file procedure_frombash.pro ;;;-----
pro procedure_fromBASH, argsFromBash
  n=n_elements(argsFromBash)
  if n eq 0 then print, $
    'procedure_fromBASH has not been passed an argument' else begin
    print, 'procedure_fromBASH has as argument a '
    help, argsFromBash
    print, 'which contains:'
    for i=0,n-1 do print, argsFromBash[i]
    print, 'on one line this is:'
    print, strjoin(argsFromBash, ' ')
    print, 'the call was probably equivalent to'
    print, 'idl -e "'+procedure_fromBash, ['"+$
      strjoin(argsFromBash, ", ")+""]+"'"
    endelse

  argsCL=command_line_args(count=nargs)
  if nargs eq 0 then print, $
    'no command line argument has been passed' else begin
    print, 'command line argument is'
    help, argsCL
    print, 'which contains'
    for i=0,nargs-1 do print, argsCL[i]
    print, 'on one line this is:'
    print, strjoin(argsCL, ' ')
    print, 'the call was probably equivalent to:'
    print, 'idl -e procedure_fromBash -args '+strjoin(argsCL, ' ')
    print, 'see http://www.harrisgeospatial.com+'+$
      '/docs/COMMAND_LINE_ARGS.html'
    endelse

  if ~file_test('args4IDL') then print, $
    "file 'args4IDL' does not exist" else begin
```

```

spawn, "wc -l args4IDL | awk '{print $1}'", out
nlines=fix(out)
if n eq 0 then print, "file 'args4IDL' is empty" else begin
  argsFromFile=strarr(nlines)
  openr, lun, 'args4IDL', /getlun
  readu, lun, argsFromFile
  free_lun, lun
  print, 'argument read from file is'
  help, argsFromFile
  print, 'which contains:'
  for i=0,nlines-1 do print, argsFromFile[i]
  print, 'the call was probably equivalent to:'
  print, 'idl -e procedure_fromBash'
  print, "with file 'args4IDL' containing:"
  for i=0,nlines-1 do print, argsFromFile[i]
endelse
endelse

case 1 of
  n   gt 0:  args=argsFromBash
  nargs gt 0:  args=argsCL
  nlines gt 0:  args=argsFromFile
  else      :  args=!null
endcase
end

```

Subject: Re: idl print call

Posted by [Markus Schmassmann](#) on Mon, 27 Mar 2017 12:15:13 GMT

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On 03/26/2017 02:32 PM, audrey.schaufelberger@gmail.com wrote:

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or for short:

```

spawn, 'ps -p $(ps -p $$ -o ppid --no-heading) -o cmd --no-heading', out
print, out

```

see:

<https://ss64.com/bash/ps.html>
