

## [7.49] Read and write text variables

There are no built-in commands or functions to read or write the contents of text variable, but Bhuvanesh Bhatt has written two flexible C routines to fix that: *TxtWrite()* and *TxtRead()*. Get them, along with documentation, at <http://tiger.towson.edu/~bbhatt1/ti/>.

From Bhuvanesh' documentation:

*Syntax:*

```
TxtWrite(expression_or_string,"varname","write_mode"[,str_format])
```

If you wish to prevent evaluation or auto-simplification of the expression, input it as a string. To insert a newline, just input a blank string.

The writing mode *write\_mode* can be:

"w" or "write" if you want to create a new text variable or overwrite an existing one  
"a" or "append" if you want to append to an existing text variable

*str\_format* should be:

0 (default) if strings should be written without quotation marks  
1 if quotation marks should be added.

```
TxtRead("varname")
```

*TxtRead()* returns the entire text variable as a list of strings. Do not try to read anything other than a Text variable. The maximum number of characters per line for *TxtRead()* is 512.

*Example:*

```
TxtWrite("Here is an expression","test","write")  
TxtWrite(x^2+2,"test","append")  
TxtWrite("Let's try a string with quotes","test","append",1)
```

Now the text variable *test* in the current folder will contain:

```
:Here is an expression  
:x^2+2  
:"Let's try a string with quotes"  
:
```

*General comments:*

For the variable name, you can specify a variable in the current folder or you can give the full path. For *TxtWrite()*, if the folder you specify does not exist, you will be prompted to create it.

Any input errors (bad argument type, etc.) are shown in the status line.

*TxtRead()* is a C program, so you will need *IPR*, as well as *h220xtsr* if you have a HW2 calculator. See tip [12.2] for details.