
Subject: IDL !path command under Digital Unix
Posted by [Paul Morris](#) on Thu, 11 Jun 1998 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I wondered if anyone knew why IDL was not able to parse certain idl !path directories. I have recently had to port some IDL code written for VMS into UNIX and it was so much easier to keep the same VMS directory names (see below).

The following shows the problem as simply as possible:

```
idl> !path = expand_path('+/home')
```

```
idl> print, !path
```

```
/home/test1:/home/test2:/home/ATSRPW$DKB300:[TEST]
```

The subdirectory /home/ATSRPW\$DKB300:[TEST] contains all the ported VMS idl.

However when I try and run the code in IDL all I get is

```
idl> .run vms_port.pro
% Can't open file for input: vms_port.pro
  No such file or directory
```

This is strange as !path picks up /home/ATSRPW\$DKB300:[TEST] correctly. It obviously has something to do with \$ and [] symbols in the directory name, but these are handled without problem by the (bash) shell on which IDL is running.

Would anyone have any workarounds, other than renaming the subdirectory?

with much thanks,

Paul Morris,
Department of Physics,
University of Oxford
