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Subject: existing directories

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Mon, 25 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

maybe something is blocking my mind right now, but I just can't think of a good (platform independent) way to test whether a directory exists or not. I am trying to write an 'install.pro' routine (not too fancy but at least with automatic backup of an old version and automatic creation of the target directory if not there). Actually, since I am spawning quite a few unix commands anyhow, a good Unix solution would be fine, too.

BTW: Has anyone written a routine like this before (which is documented)? What I have in mind (and working in a rudimentary version) is this:

- \* create target directory if necessary
- or copy all files in target directory into BACKUP<date> directory
- \* copy all files from a masterdirectory (either by listfile or file mask) to target directory
- or extract them from the RCS system (version control system).

This would be a generic install routine which would come to life by package specific caller routines (e.g. install\_gamap.pro).

Thanks,  
Martin.

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Dr. Martin Schultz  
Department for Engineering&Applied Sciences, Harvard University  
109 Pierce Hall, 29 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA-02138, USA

phone: (617)-496-8318

fax : (617)-495-4551

e-mail: [mgs@io.harvard.edu](mailto:mgs@io.harvard.edu)

Internet-homepage: <http://www-as.harvard.edu/people/staff/mgs/>

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