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Subject: Re: Creating Directories

Posted by [Harald Frey](#) on Tue, 13 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Trond Trondsen wrote:

> The solutions presented in this thread all seem to be unacceptable  
> in view of the fact that IDL is, in principle, platform independent.  
> I was contracted to write a piece of widget software that is supposed  
> to run under unix/linux (the only platform \*I\* am able to stomach),  
> VMS, Mac, as well as MS-Win/99 (or whatever it's called now). I happen to need  
> to create subdirectories recursively and so on -- so, if I may ask,  
> where is the IDL command to do directory creation platform independently.  
> Independent like FILEPATH, for example. If I had direct access to all the  
> different platforms I could of course easily write my own function using  
> the !VERSION system variable. Let me know if anybody comes up with a  
> CREATEDIR command for IDL. :-) -trond  
>

This may not be the "perfect and complete" answer, but what I do to run a program on different platforms is to use a batch file which defines the common blocks (oh, yes I use common blocks!) and defines the platform specific path names, directory separators etc.

Here is the main part of the batch file as an example:

```
===== snipped some code here =====
; on which computer is it running
; this list can be extended in future if necessary

; you have to edit this datapath and the filepath for the programs
case !version.arch of $
"sparc": begin $
    data_path='/disks/sprite/disk2/hfrey/ago' &$
    file_path='/disks/sprite/disk1/hfrey/idl/ago' &$
    dir_sep='/' &$
    dev_name='X' &$
end &$
"PowerMac": begin $
    data_path='+Hard Disk:applications:IDL:IDL 4.0:ago' &$
    file_path='+Hard Disk:applications:IDL:IDL 4.0:ago' &$
    dir_sep=':' &$
    dev_name='MAC' &$
end &$
"alpha": begin $
    data_path='[hfr.idl.ago.data' &$
    file_path='[hfr.idl.ago ' &$
    dir_sep='.' &$
    dev_name='X' &$
```

```
    end &$
else: begin $
    print,'You have to edit the case statement in ago_config.cmn' &$
    stop &$
    end &$
endcase
===== end of batch =====
```

All my procedures call this batch at the beginning with

```
@ago_config.cmn
```

and you might include the platform specific differences in the directory creation here as well.

Harald  
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