
Subject: IDL_STARTUP trouble and .kshrc
Posted by [dave-keller](#) on Sun, 19 Jan 2003 20:19:30 GMT
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I want to use an alternate 'IDL_STARTUP' file when running IDL from a scheduled ('cron') job. I used to do this all the time on Sun and HP workstations. But now on an IBM workstation, it seems that IDL takes the IDL_STARTUP variable STRICTLY FROM MY .kshrc, as if IDL reads the .kshrc file!

From a ksh on an IBM:

(assume I have files 'mystartup.pro' and 'mystartup_v2.pro')

```
% export IDL_STARTUP=~/.mystartup_v2.pro
% idl
  'This is the old startup program' (message in the mystartup.pro
file)
IDL> print,getenv('IDL_STARTUP')
  mystartup.pro
IDL> exit
echo $IDL_STARTUP
  'mystartup_v2.pro'
```

What is also odd is that I can modify my .kshrc file, AND NOT EVEN 'EXECUTE' IT, and IDL will use THE IDL_STARTUP VARIABLE IN THE .kshrc FILE!

```
.kshrc:
export IDL_STARTUP='mystartup.pro' (IDL WILL USE mystartup.pro)
export IDL_STARTUP='mystartup_v2.pro' (IDL WILL USE mystartup_v2.pro)
```

I want to specify, 'dynamically', which IDL_STARTUP file to use, on this IBM system. But IDL seems to 'read' my .kshrc file, and use whatever the environmental variable IDL_STARTUP is, from there. IDL reads my .kshrc whether or not I 'execute' it, all I have to do is modify the .kshrc with an editor, and IDL will follow. This is not what I expect, I expect IDL to honor my IDL_STARTUP variable.

I think ksh is the predominant shell on our system, so I'd prefer that, but it may be that using 'c' shell is the solution?

Heeeeelp?

-- Dave --
