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Subject: Re: UNIX v. Windows Filepaths  
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Thu, 10 Jul 2003 19:32:53 GMT  
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On Thu, 10 Jul 2003 07:58:09 -0700, Justin Sieglaff wrote:

> Hi everyone....  
>  
> A quick question. I've created code and after it is installed on a  
> user's machine I want to make the current directory one of the  
> directories included with the code. For UNIX I've added the following  
> code:  
>  
> CD, '../source', current=curdir  
>  
> Since I have never used IDL for Windows I'm not sure how to add a line  
> for Windows path. Any help would be greatly appreciated!  
>

I use an altogether different method to accomplish the same thing,  
which never requires any specific knowledge about the path delimiters,  
etc.:

```
source=(routine_info('irs_calib_dir_marker',/SOURCE)).PATH  
dir=strmid(source,0,strpos(source,path_sep(),/REVERSE_SEARCH ))
```

where the procedure 'irs\_calib\_dir\_marker' exists in the directory I'm  
after. You can either use an empty marker procedure, or an actual  
procedure. The advantage of this method is that your run-time  
required data or directory will be found with the associated routine  
independent of how IDL was started, and even if the user has severely  
butchered the file structure of your distribution (moving various  
directories around, say).

You can also create directories or files relative to this in a  
platform-independent way using, e.g.:

```
file=filepath(ROOT_DIR=cdir,SUBDIR='my_data',file)
```

JD

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