
Subject: Re: IDLWAVE !path variable

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Sun, 11 Jan 2004 22:43:21 GMT

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On Sat, 10 Jan 2004 16:28:57 -0700, Karthik wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I am running Debian Linux and have IDLWAVE version 5.2. I have my
> routines in /home/karthik/IDL_FILES/pro and have to issue this command
> every time:
> !path=!path+'./home/karthik/IDL_FILES/pro'
> Is there a way to add path information to IDLWAVE permanently?
>

The traditional way is:

```
setenv IDL_PATH "+usr/local/rsi/idl/lib:+home/karthik/IDL_FILES/pro"
```

This must occur somewhere where Emacs can see it, so that the instance of IDL that is run by IDLWAVE has this variable set. You can check with:

```
IDL> print,getenv('IDL_PATH')
```

and this can also be helpful:

```
IDL> print,transpose(strsplit(!PATH,':',/EXTRACT))
```

> Here are the measures I took before posting this question: a) In the
> shell I issued the command:
> [karthik] ~> ./idlwave_catalog karthik
> b) I messed with the files in the .idlwave dir. and edited the
> idlpath.el file to include this line :
> ("/home/karthik/IDL_FILES/pro/")

This shouldn't be necessary, but it explains why IDLWAVE knows about your files and yet IDL doesn't. Normally IDLWAVE interrogates the shell to learn about the routine path, and caches it in ~/idlwave, but does not ever set the path directly.

> c) I set idlwave-auto-write-paths to 't' in my .emacs file. d) In the
> IDL shell (under Emacs) I issued the command !path=!path+'./.....etc'
> and logged out and then logged in again. e) I added path information in
> .idlde file

auto-write-paths is normally `t'. It's provided if you have an unusual setup in which you switch back and forth between different

IDL_PATH setups, and want to have control over which directories IDLWAVE looks through for user catalogs (in which case you'd set it to `nil').

JD
