
Subject: Re: Mark directory for exclusion from !PATH
Posted by [Wayne Landsman](#) on Fri, 20 Feb 2004 22:00:58 GMT
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JD Smith wrote:

- > Is their
- > an equivalent way to mark a directory so that it is not included in
- > !PATH at all? Something like "IDL_IGNORE" or some such comes to mind,
- > but I haven't found a mention of it.

This reminds me of a frustrating experience I had last week when IDL would hang after I added a large directory structure to the !PATH. It turns out that there was a bad logical directory link that was putting IDL into an infinite loop trying to resolve the subdirectories. I only solved the problem after switching back to V5.5 which gave explicit error messages -- unlike V6.0 which would hang silently.

As for your original question, I can only think of the crude method of explicitly removing directory names from a string created using EXPAND_PATH before adding it to your !PATH, e.g. to remove the directory /home/landsman/pro/bte from the list of directories in +/home/landsman/pro in your startup file

```
st = expand_path('/home/landsman/pro')
st = repstr(st, '/home/landsman/pro/bte:')
!path = st + ' ' + !path
```

where repstr.pro (<ftp://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/pub/pro/misc/repstr.pro>) removes the target string from object string.

--Wayne Landsman
