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Subject: Re: IDL environment

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 28 Dec 2004 05:23:37 GMT

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judy writes:

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> I am a newbie to IDL and looking for information for setting up the
> environment. I did create the ~/idl_startup.pro file to set the
> graphics to true_color=24, also added a directory to the path. I would
> also like to change the idl prompt from something like,
>
> /home/judy/idl>
>
> and have the prompt update to always display the current working
> directory. I have experimented with the !prompt variable, could
> probably create a alias cd.pro program to update the variable every
> time the directory changes, just thought I would ask this group first.
>
> I am currently using,
>
> IDL = Student Edition 6.0.3 (linux x86 m32)
> OS = SuSE 9.0
> Shell= tcsh
```

I don't think there is any way to change the prompt like this in a reliable way. You could write your own "mycd.pro", which called the IDL CD program and changed the prompt appropriately. And as long as you only run programs you write, and as long as you use MYCD instead of CD you will be fine.

But it is hard to live in such isolation. If it were me, I'd leave the prompt alone and work up a nice PWD program so you can always find out what directory you are in when you need to know. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Oh, what the hell, Merry Christmas!

PRO PWD

CD, Current=thisDir

PRINT, thisDir

END

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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