
Subject: Re: alias in idl

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Mon, 16 May 2005 22:10:43 GMT

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Koh Leong Tah wrote:

> hi all,
> i have a directory which I happen to restore structures on pretty often
> and i was wondering if there's a way to have a shortcut name to that
> directory that i can setup, maybe in .idlinit?
> thanks,
> kl
>

Besides what has already been mentioned, you can also create an environmental variable with a value of the directory path. Then, in IDL you can use:

```
dir = getenv('NAME_OF_ENV_VAR')
```

Something like this is can be really handy if you give your code to someone else and they have a different directory structure. Instead of editing your code or IDL startup files, you only have to create the appropriate variable. Just another way to skin this cat.

Of course, I'd say to go with the solutions that have already been offered. Something like this only needs to be used if you want to distribute your code to others.

-Mike
