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Subject: the strange case of readcol.pro in idl 5.6  
Posted by [j.j.harry](#) on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 12:53:10 GMT  
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Hi folks!

I have a quite weird question, that I'm pretty sure someone of you already experienced.

I have a program that is working like a charm on my machine and I'm using idl 6.0 with a bunch of libraries downloaded from the net. Here is how my .bashrc looks like

```
export IDL_PATH=${IDL_PATH}:+\${HOME}/download/astron
export IDL_PATH=${IDL_PATH}:+/usr/local/rsi/idl_6.0
```

Now I have to use right the same program on a machine where idl 5.6 is installed. Ok, I think I probably have to make some small change in my .bashrc and then start to have fun.

So I edit the .bashrc in the following way

```
export IDL_PATH=${IDL_PATH}:+\${HOME}/download/astron
export IDL_PATH=${IDL_PATH}:+/usr/local/rsi/idl
```

(actually I have tried different options before to post such a topic) and then I go to run my program....but:

```
var = strsplit(strcompress(temp),delimiter,/extract)
      ^
```

% Syntax error.

At: /home/harry/download/astron/goddard/pro/readcol.pro, Line 230

% Compiled module: READCOL.

% Attempt to call undefined procedure/function: 'READCOL'.

So, the problem looks more like some misunderstanding between idl 5.6 and the readcol routine :/

At least I have tried to put readcol (and the routines it calls) in the same directory as my program (so to avoid some unseen error in linking the library) but it continue not to work.

I have seen that in readcol.pro there is a line to discriminate between version newer and older than 5.6 ..... does anyone have some suggestion??!?

Thanks a lot!  
Harry

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