
Subject: Re: Set path of terminal tools, e.g. ImageMagick, in Workbench

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 10 Oct 2010 00:48:17 GMT

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Reno writes:

> I'm trying to use Unix tools, in IDL Workbench, e.g. use ImageMagick
> via David's PS_START and PS_END. It turns out that the SPAWN does not
> recognise the tools, like,
>
> IDL> SPAWN, 'convert -version'
> bash: convert: command not found
>
> I installed the ImageMagick through MacPorts and it's in /opt/local/
> bin, but I don't think the location doesn't really matter since the
> tools are properly set its path. When I run the same code in IDL in
> terminal environment, it is just perfect with not problem what so
> ever.
>
> When I give full path of ImageMagick, it works fine.

I don't know how to solve this problem. Sorry, but
I don't have a Mac.

But since you mention ImageMagick I just wanted to say
that Friday, after several weeks of producing more than
50 book figures, I suddenly realized that I don't miss
lousy direct graphics fonts any more at all!

I use a version of PS_Start to create the book
figures. I call PS_Start, paste the code from the
book into the IDL command line, and then use PS_End
to make a PDF file. Then I just import the PDF
file into the book as a figure.

Not only do I know that the code is typo free, but
this method produces absolutely perfect output with
PostScript or True-Type fonts, whatever I want. The
figures print great, and look spectacular in a PDF
version of the book. I really couldn't be happier.

I could probably live without IDL. But I'm pretty
sure I couldn't live without ImageMagick. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
