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Subject: Re: astronomy library

Posted by [elliottetzcorn](#) on Sun, 24 Jun 2012 23:13:05 GMT

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On Sunday, June 24, 2012 5:50:35 PM UTC-5, Mike Galloy wrote:

> On 6/24/12 4:23 pm, [elliottetzcorn@gmail.com](#) wrote:

>> On Sunday, June 24, 2012 3:49:47 AM UTC-5, alx wrote:

>>> On 24 juin, 01:47, [elliottetzcorn@gmail.com](#) wrote:

>>>> On Saturday, June 23, 2012 6:37:17 PM UTC-5, (unknown) wrote:

>>>> > On Saturday, June 23, 2012 5:55:54 PM UTC-4, [elliottetzcorn@gmail.com](#) wrote:

>>>> >> Does anybody have a very user friendly tutorial for installing the astronomy library for IDL? I tried the one on nasa's site but I couldn't figure some of the parts out, particularly the path.

>>>>

>>>> >> Thank you!

>>>>

>>>> > You just need to download the file: `astron.dir.tar.gz` from `http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/`. You'll need to just put this files in your `IDL_PATH`. I only know how to do this if you're using Linux or Mac OSX, if it's windows then you're on your own.

>>>>

>>>> > Once the files are in your path, start a fresh xterm (okay, the only way, but a safe way) to reset the path. Then start idl, and type "astrolib" to initialize a few system variables and be able to use all the procedures.

>>>>

>>>> > russell

>>>>

>>>> I do not understand how to put thing in the `IDL_PATH` in windows. If anybody knows that would be awesome.

>>>

>>> The IDL Workbench allows you to interactively change the value of the `IDL_PATH` system preference using the "Window> Preferences" dialog (see the documentation). In exactly the same way, while using Windows or \*nix.

>>>

>>> If you do not use the IDL workbench (i.e. you are using the "IDL Command Line"), the best way for changing your `!PATH` variable is to use `PREF_*` commands (`PREF_GET` to see your preferences, `PREF_SET` to set them, `PREF_COMMIT` for doing the actual changes). Here too, this is exactly the same way while using Windows or \*nix.

>>>

>>> All this is clearly explained in IDL documentation ("IDL concepts> Managing IDL Paths")

>>>

>>> Cheers,

>>> alx.

>>

>> I am using IDL workbench. Didn't seem like there was a `!path` variable option in window/preferences. I read the documentation as well. I ended up putting the whole `astron` directory in the main `idl` directory, figuring this was also in the `!path`, and created a desktop

shortcut to it. Do you think this should work?

>

> Depending on exactly where you put it, it may work, but it is not a very  
> clean solution. You probably should not modify the IDL distribution.

>

> In the Windows Workbench, open the Preferences, i.e., Window >  
> Preferences. Then IDL > Paths from the tree of preferences sections on  
> the left. That should give you a dialog to add directories to the IDL  
> path. Make sure to put a checkmark in front of the directory you add if  
> there is a hierarchy of directories.

>

> Mike

> --

> Michael Galloy

> [www.michaelgalloy.com](http://www.michaelgalloy.com)

> Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>

> Research Mathematician

> Tech-X Corporation

Got it thank you!

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