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Subject: Re: file paths  
Posted by [David Foster](#) on Thu, 03 Apr 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
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David wrote:

>  
> hi,  
>  
> I want to add some code at the top of a fairly large project that will  
> tell IDL where to look for all the subroutines it'll need. They are in  
> various different folders, organized by their function. I want the code  
> to compile everything automatically, even if I move the source around.  
> (It would be messy to put all the subroutines in the same folder).  
>  
> Is there any way other than help, /source to show the path of the  
> currently executing file? If I knew the path to the executing file, I  
> could append it (with a +) to !path to make this work, right?  
>

Maybe I'm really missing the boat on this one, but I think you would be better off organizing your source code so that everything is included in your definition of !PATH from the start. Part of the beauty of IDL is that you don't have to tell it where to find routines. Once you do this, you can pre-compile routines in an application by just using:

@filename.pro

If you really need to add dirs to !PATH "on the fly", I like Tim's approach using getenv() (maybe just once though!).

I don't understand the last statement, since if a file is executing then IDL must have found it, which means that it's directory is \*already\* in !PATH.

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