
Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [Allan Whiteford](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 10:55:43 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

greg michael wrote:

> I'm sure there must be any easy answer to this, but I can't figure it
> out...
>
> If a VM program is run with something like:
>
> idl -vm=...path.../myprog.sav
>
> how can I get that path from within the program?
>
> Greg
>

Greg,

It's not pretty but:

```
help,/source,output=a  
idx=where(stregex(a,'myprog +([/,a-z,0-9,_,\.]*)',/fold_case) eq 0)  
file=(stregex(a[idx],'myprog +([/,a-z,0-9,_,\.]*)',  
/fold_case,/subexpr,/extract))[1]
```

I'm sure there is a better way.

Thanks,

Allan

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [greg michael](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 12:30:06 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Thanks very much Allan! That's just what I need. I didn't get the stregex part to work (wish I could, but it's a magic I can't fathom), but grabbing it out of the help output is fine. Pretty enough for my purposes.

```
main='myprog'  
help,/source,output=a  
sav_file=strtrim(strmid(a[where(strmid(a,0,strlen(main)+1) eq main+'  
' ),strlen(main)),2)
```

(I match an extra space to avoid a routine called 'myprogGUI')

regards,
Greg

Subject: Re: path to .sav file
Posted by [btt](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 12:39:16 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

greg michael wrote:

> I'm sure there must be any easy answer to this, but I can't figure it
> out...
>
> If a VM program is run with something like:
>
> idl -vm=...path.../myprog.sav
>
> how can I get that path from within the program?
>
> Greg
>
Hello,

I think you want somethong like Jim Pendleton's SOURCEPATH.pro which you
can find at <http://www.ittvis.com/codebank>

Ben

Subject: Re: path to .sav file
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 12:50:05 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Ben Tupper writes:

> I think you want somethong like Jim Pendleton's SOURCEPATH.pro which you
> can find at <http://www.ittvis.com/codebank>

Or, PROGRAMROOTDIR, here:

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/programrootdir.pro>

It's based on Jim's, but with some tweaks I need for
the way I distribute programs.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [greg michael](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 13:06:19 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Now I have many to choose from!

Seems Jim's has been updated to use Scope_Traceback(), which probably makes it more robust than the 'help'-based methods.

many thanks,

Greg

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 13:41:03 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

greg michael writes:

> Seems Jim's has been updated to use Scope_Traceback(), which probably
> makes it more robust than the 'help'-based methods.

Certainly makes it a lot simpler to write the code!
I do notice, though, that the path that comes back doesn't have a file separator on the end of the path. You will have to remember to append this is you are going to use the path to locate another file, etc.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: path to .sav file
Posted by [btt](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 13:57:54 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning wrote:

> greg michael writes:

>

>> Seems Jim's has been updated to use Scope_Traceback(), which probably

>> makes it more robust than the 'help'-based methods.

>

> Certainly makes it a lot simpler to write the code!

> I do notice, though, that the path that comes back

> doesn't have a file separator on the end of the path.

> You will have to remember to append this is you are

> going to use the path to locate another file, etc.

>

Hi,

Jim added the `_EXTRA` keyword which is passed to `FILE_DIRNAME` so you can simply pass the keyword `/MARK_DIRECTORY` in to have it done for you.

Ben

Subject: Re: path to .sav file
Posted by [Douglas G. Dirks](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 16:06:58 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Ben Tupper wrote:

> greg michael wrote:

>> I'm sure there must be any easy answer to this, but I can't figure it

>> out...

>>

>> If a VM program is run with something like:

>>

>> `idl -vm=...path.../myprog.sav`

>>

>> how can I get that path from within the program?

>>

>> Greg

>>

> Hello,

>

> I think you want somethong like Jim Pendleton's `SOURCEPATH.pro` which you

> can find at <http://www.itvis.com/codebank>

>

> Ben

ROUTINE_INFO will give you the path to the source of any compiled routine, provided you know its name, and it works all the way back to IDL 5.0:

```
routinepath = ROUTINE_INFO('myprog', /SOURCE)
```

(assuming that myprog.sav has a main routine called 'myprog'...)

Add in FILE_DIRNAME (IDL 6.0 or later) and you've got what you want, I think:

```
routinedir = FILE_DIRNAME(routinepath.path)
```

You can use the MARK_DIRECTORY keyword to FILE_DIRNAME to get a trailing directory separator.

Nothing against SOURCEPATH or PROGRAMROOTDIR, but if all you want is to know the path from which a routine was compiled, you can do it with IDL internal routines.

Doug

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 16:22:08 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Douglas G. Dirks writes:

> Nothing against SOURCEPATH or PROGRAMROOTDIR, but if all you want
> is to know the path from which a routine was compiled, you can do
> it with IDL internal routines.

Indeed. As either of those two programs would prove to you. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 16:27:46 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning writes:

> Indeed. As either of those two programs would prove to you. :-)

Some people just insist on using one well-named program
when 8-10 lines of code would do just fine. As Coyote
says, "It's a damn commie plot!"

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 20:22:18 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Mon, 23 Oct 2006 10:27:46 -0600, David Fanning wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>

>> Indeed. As either of those two programs would prove to you. :-)

>

> Some people just insist on using one well-named program

> when 8-10 lines of code would do just fine. As Coyote

> says, "It's a damn commie plot!"

Looks like 1 line to me ;). I use a modification of this method: create a
little batch file (e.g. project_directory.pro) with something like:

```
common my_project_dir, proj_dir
if n_elements(proj_dir) eq 0 then begin
  resolve_routine,'myproj',/NO_RECOMPILE
  proj_dir=(routine_info('myproj',/SOURCE)).PATH
  ps=path_sep()
  if strmid(proj_dir, 0,1) ne ps then $ ;relative filename
  proj_dir=file_expand_path(proj_dir)
endif
```

Then in any routine where you need to know the project directory, just

@project_dir

at the top. More real world examples would locate the interesting relative paths within the distribution. You can use anything for 'myproj', just pick a routine which is in a known useful location. This works for source, compiled SAV's, anything. For maximum usefulness, have the relative location of the routine (in source distributions) and the .sav file (in binary distributions) the same.

JD

Subject: Re: path to .sav file

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2006 21:21:11 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

JD Smith writes:

```
> I use a modification of this method: create a
> little batch file (e.g. project_directory.pro) with something like:
>
> common my_project_dir, proj_dir
> if n_elements(proj_dir) eq 0 then begin
>   resolve_routine,'myproj',/NO_RECOMPILE
>   proj_dir=(routine_info('myproj',/SOURCE)).PATH
>   ps=path_sep()
>   if strmid(proj_dir, 0,1) ne ps then $ ;relative filename
>   proj_dir=file_expand_path(proj_dir)
> endif
>
> Then in any routine where you need to know the project directory, just
>
> @project_dir
>
> at the top. More real world examples would locate the interesting
> relative paths within the distribution. You can use anything for
> 'myproj', just pick a routine which is in a known useful location. This
> works for source, compiled SAV's, anything. For maximum usefulness, have
> the relative location of the routine (in source distributions) and the
> .sav file (in binary distributions) the same.
```

I've tried distributing files that I @filename into the code, but this always causes me grief when people try to run the code because it requires that the directory where the @ files are located be on the PATH (or in the local directory).

For some reason, people with UNIX machines have a *great* many problems getting their paths set up properly, in my experience. More often than not, my files are in 5 different directories on their machines, and I can easily spend an entire day getting things on their path sorted out. :-(

> Looks like 1 line to me ;)

I think it was two. But I try not to let the facts get in the way of making a point, whenever possible. :-)

(For some reason, I was thinking of TV and TVIMAGE when I wrote that response. It's true that TVIMAGE uses ONLY built-in IDL commands.)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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