
Subject: Re: vm cwd in *nix

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 03 Jul 2007 23:33:51 GMT

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On Jul 3, 4:50 pm, rcl...@hindmost.lpl.arizona.edu (Richard Clark) wrote:

- > I'm developing a tool for use in an application (and on workstation)
- > that doesn't otherwise use idl so I'm hoping to run it in the idl
- > virtual machine.
- >
- > Running it in normal fully interactive idl it works fine but not in
- > vm. I figured out that this is because the vm comes up in the location
- > of the .sav file as its current working directory.
- >
- > Is there an easy way to notify the vm application of the location it
- > is being started from without the user having to type in
- > big_long_convoluted_path_name at some point?

Do you mean start with a given current directory or just to know what directory it is started from?

If you just want to know where you are starting from, everyone seems to have their own version, mine is:

http://michaelgalloy.com/wp-content/uploads/2007/07/mg_src_root.pro

Called from a routine, it will return the directory of the .pro or .sav file where that routine was located.

If you want to start in a given directory, just use CD (the IDL routine).

- > And a related question...
- >
- > Is there a way to automatically generate a mouse click to get past the
- > vm startup screen? (again, this is all linux/unix so a non portable
- > solution is ok)
- > The application mentioned above is semi-interactive and a human is in
- > the loop, but we have a couple of fully automated processing pipelines
- > (multiple, independent instances may be running, each at its own rate)
- > where we would like to use idl but also need to keep costs under
- > control.

I believe the answer to that is to buy a runtime license.

- > Has anyone ever translated their documentation about licensing into
- > english?

No.

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com

Subject: Re: vm cwd in *nix

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 05 Jul 2007 13:30:10 GMT

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On Jul 3, 6:33 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Jul 3, 4:50 pm, rcl...@hindmost.lpl.arizona.edu (Richard Clark)

> wrote:

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>> Has anyone ever translated their documentation about licensing into
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> No.
>
> Mike
> --www.michaelgalloy.com

I'll agree (mostly) with Mike. The splash screen is there for a reason...

However, I think you missed the point Mike on the 'cwd' question. I too have run into this problem - with IDL changing directory to the directory where the .sav file is. For instance. Say the user want to start a .sav file to operate on some files in /da/mr/data/. He first does, > cd /da/mr/data then runs the program. But the program (the sav file) is in /usr/local/savfiles, so when the sav file tries to open foo.dat it can't find it.

To circumvent this, I usually wrap the thing in a (bash) shell script. I capture \$PWD and export the variable, then call idl -vm=/usr/local/savfiles/foo.sav

If anyone from ITT/IDL is out there listening... this used to not be a problem, until about v6.0 or maybe 6.1. Before that IDL would not have the current working directory as the directory from which idl was started. I for one liked it better that way. Maybe it's a limitation of the vm?

Subject: Re: vm cwd in *nix
Posted by [rclark](#) on Thu, 05 Jul 2007 21:58:38 GMT
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In article <1183642210.113475.30670@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>, hradilv <hradilv@yahoo.com> wrote:
> On Jul 3, 6:33 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> On Jul 3, 4:50 pm, rcl...@hindmost.lpl.arizona.edu (Richard Clark)
>> wrote:
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> does, > cd /da/mr/data then runs the program. But the program (the
> sav file) is in /usr/local/savfiles, so when the sav file tries to
> open foo.dat it can't find it.
```

Yes, the user has been prepositioned in a data directory. A script fires off the idl -vm command, which includes the fixed path to the .sav file. The vm session starts up in the directory where .sav file is located, not the data directory where the idl command was issued to the shell. When I start idl normally and RESTORE the .sav file and run it, idl is running in the data directory where I want to be. And I see that 'idl -rt=...' has the same behavior as the vm startup.

```
> To circumvent this, I usually wrap the thing in a (bash) shell
> script. I capture $PWD and export the variable, then call idl -vm=/
> usr/local/savfiles/foo.sav
```

This looks hopeful.

I also see that somewhere shortly after ver 6.0 they added a -args to the idl command line and a `command_line_arguments()` function for use within idl. If this works the way it sounds like, then it would be just what I'm looking for. In fact, it would be one of the more useful features they've added in years. Could greatly cut down on all the here documents and cryptic sed and awk commands needed to generate batch files. Gotta do some tests to see what's up.

```
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> problem, until about v6.0 or maybe 6.1. Before that IDL would not
> have the current working directory as the directory from which idl was
> started. I for one liked it better that way. Maybe it's a limitation
> of the vm?
```

Nope, starting idl with the '-rt=' argument shows the same behavior. Although maybe there are other ways of starting an application in rt mode? This is the first I've done anything with the vm or rt modes of

running idl.

>>> And a related question...

>>

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>>> vm startup screen? (again, this is all linux/unix so a non portable

>>> solution is ok)

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>> I believe the answer to that is to buy a runtime license.

> I'll agree (mostly) with Mike. The splash screen is there for a

> reason...

So it would seem. Well, at least they don't download ads to you while
you're running it.

Oops, did I say that out loud?

Richard Clark
rclark@lpl.arizona.edu
