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Subject: How to modify my IDL library path?

Posted by [mystea](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2007 07:03:44 GMT

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Dear all,

I have been trying to install the famous textoidl utility into my computer. In order to keep this add-on separate from the original library, I made a directory /usr/local/itt/idl64/addon and I decide to put all my add-ons into that directory.

It turns out that in most cases this will work. (namely, when I put a .pro file in that directory), but if I put a whole directory under that directory, IDL will not find the files. (e.g. when I extracted all the textoidl files to /usr/local/itt/idl64/addon/textoidl, IDL won't see them at all.)

For managing sake, I don't want to extract textoidl files to /usr/local/itt/idl64/addon/. Is it possible to change IDL's searching path?

Besides, it seems that IDL can't recognize my addons as a "native" routine. (i.e. I need to compile them before I call them, unlike other utilities such as interpolation.) Is there a trick to fix this?

Thank you all.

Gene

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Subject: Re: How to modify my IDL library path?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 03 Dec 2007 17:09:13 GMT

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mystea wrote:

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> computer. In order to keep this add-on separate from the original  
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> local/itt/idl64/addon/. Is it possible to change IDL's searching path?  
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> Besides, it seems that IDL can't recognize my addons as a "native"  
> routine. (i.e. I need to compile them before I call them, unlike other  
> utilities such as interpolation.) Is there a trick to fix this?

Here is my idl setup from my .bashrc:

```
# Setup idl
export RSI_DIR=/usr/local/rsi
export IDL_DIR=$RSI_DIR/idl
export IDL_PATH="<IDL_DEFAULT>"
. $IDL_DIR/bin/idl_setup.bash
export IDL_PATH=${IDL_PATH}:+\${HOME}/scripts/idl:+\${RSI_DIR}/user_contrib
export IDL_STARTUP=$HOME/scripts/idl/idl_startup.pro
```

I believe my "+\\${RSI\_DIR}/user\_contrib" would be equivalent to your "/addon" directory. Note the "+" to get IDL to search all the subdirectories as well. After reading other responses, I'm not sure if the "\" escape char is needed or not.

BTW, I thought the accepted convention was a "user\_contrib" directory as opposed to "addon"?

cheers,

paulv

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