
Subject: Re: Setting the IDL Path

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Tue, 05 Oct 2010 11:51:52 GMT

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On Oct 4, 5:13 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Mark Piper writes:

>> Check! It's now on the list. This would help me, too, because I've
>> been confused by the many different ways to set path, as well as the
>> precedence of these different ways. Maybe we could discuss what
>> particular topics should go into this webinar?

>

> I have a bad feeling there is not going to be
> One Right Way. For example, I **never** let IDL
> anywhere near my !PATH. I want to manage it
> completely myself, so I know what is what.

>

> Dick Jackson, who is as good an IDL programmer
> as anyone I know, tells me he **always** lets
> IDL manage his !PATH. Yikes!!

>

> If we assume that is the yin and the yang of it, I
> wonder where everyone else falls out?

>

> Personally, if I am using a Workbench, I set my
> path in the IDL Preferences, and make sure none
> of my projects "update" the path. If I'm not using
> a workbench, I set my IDL path in my startup file,
> using EXPAND_PATH to find sub-directories, as at the
> end of this article.

>

> http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/idlsetup.html

>

> 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.")

Incidentally, I can relate from experience that when you have a gazillion variables you want to put in a save file, SAVE, /ALL is not the way to go. Since it also saves !PATH... and if you then try to restore that file on a different system where things are located in different places, you can get yourself very very confused!

-Jeremy.

Subject: Re: Setting the IDL Path
Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 05 Oct 2010 18:02:06 GMT
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On Oct 5, 8:51 am, Jeremy Bailin <astroco...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Incidentally, I can relate from experience that when you have a
> gazillion variables you want to put in a save file, SAVE, /ALL is not
> the way to go. Since it also saves !PATH... and if you then try to
> restore that file on a different system where things are located in
> different places, you can get yourself very very confused!

IDL_Savefile objects and Craig Markwardt's cmsvlib (<http://www.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/cmsave.html>) can help with that, allowing to query the file and choose, pack or rename the variables to restore.

Subject: Re: Setting the IDL Path
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 06 Oct 2010 14:01:01 GMT
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On Oct 5, 2:02 pm, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Oct 5, 8:51 am, Jeremy Bailin <astroco...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> Incidentally, I can relate from experience that when you have a
>> gazillion variables you want to put in a save file, SAVE, /ALL is not
>> the way to go. Since it also saves !PATH... and if you then try to
>> restore that file on a different system where things are located in
>> different places, you can get yourself very very confused!
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> IDL_Savefile objects and Craig Markwardt's cmsvlib
(<http://www.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/cmsave.html>) can help with that,
> allowing to query the file and choose, pack or rename the variables to
> restore.

Good point! Thanks for reminding me that IDL_Savefile existed - I think I'm going to end up spending this morning cleaning the system variables out of my old save files...

-Jeremy.
