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Subject: pick up Linux aliases in IDL

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Tue, 29 Mar 2016 17:24:32 GMT

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This might be more of a Linux than an IDL question, but it has been driving me crazy. I've started working on a Linux cluster, and I define aliases in a .cshrc file. One alias might be

```
alias lt "ls -lt"
```

These aliases work fine at the shell, but when I get into IDL and spawn the command (IDL>\$lt) it is not recognized.

lt: Command not found

Some additional information:

1. System aliases (those defined in /etc/profile\_d) *are* recognized within IDL
2. If I spawn a child process in IDL ( IDL>\$ ), then the aliases are again picked up at the system prompt.
3. I have a Linux cluster at my old job, where the aliases *are* picked up in IDL. I have yet to figure out what is different between the two Linux setups.
4. I tried using IDL83 and IDL85 in both command line mode and idlde on the new cluster, and in no case can I pick up my personal aliases. I've also tried using bash (defining aliases in .bashrc) instead of c-shell without success.

Thanks for any help. --Wayne

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Subject: Re: pick up Linux aliases in IDL

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Tue, 29 Mar 2016 18:24:37 GMT

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On Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at 1:24:36 PM UTC-4, wlandsman wrote:

> These aliases work fine at the shell, but when I get into IDL and spawn the command (IDL>\$lt) it is not recognized.

I sort of figured out the answer. I had a line in my .tchrc file to skip the remaining setup if not an interactive shell

```
if ($?USER == 0 || $?prompt == 0) exit
```

and the alias commands were located after this. Once you get into IDL there is no longer a shell prompt

```
IDL> $echo $?prompt  
0
```

and so the shell script exited before defining the aliases. Of course, I figured this out only after posting. --Wayne

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