
Subject: Re: Making a directory in an IDL routine.
Posted by [rpete](#) on Thu, 04 Dec 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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David Kennedy (D.Kennedy@qub.ac.uk) wrote:

- > An usual request -
- > Does anyone know how to make a directory from inside an IDL
- > routine? I know its odd, but its the best way to organise
- > a huge save set that'll be generated.

- > (And better yet, how to check if such a directory already
- > exists).

- > I imagine that this is machine dependant - UNIX answers
- > only needed.

'spawn' can do both of these

1. To check if a directory exists:

```
IDL> dir='/home/me/mydir'
```

```
IDL> spawn, 'ls -a '+dir, result
```

Now, check the length of RESULT[0]. If it is zero, then
DIR doesn't exist, otherwise DIR does exist.

2. To create a directory

```
IDL> spawn,'mkdir '+dir
```

This may not be elegant, but it works.

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