

## NAME

saotrace.suplib - Lua support library of miscellaneous functions

## SYNOPSIS

```
-----
-- load table functions
require( 'saotrace.suplib.tables' )

-- copy a table
copy = table_copy( table, deep_copy )

-----
-- load path functions
require( 'saotrace.suplib.paths' )

-- split paths
dirname, basename = splitpath( path )

-----
-- load string functions
require( 'saotrace.suplib.strings' )
```

## FUNCTIONS

### Table Manipulation

These functions are available in the *saotrace.suplib.tables* file.

table\_copy

```
copy = table_copy( table, [deep_copy] )
```

Create a copy of the passed *table*. If the optional parameter *deep\_copy* is false (the default) a shallow copy will be made (i.e., elements which are tables will be copied by reference).

If *deep* is true, elements which are tables are copied by value a deep copy will be made. However, **table\_copy** does not check for recursive tables, so will go into an infinite loop if a table somehow references itself.

### Path Functions

These functions are available in the *saotrace.suplib.paths* file.

splitpath

```
dirname, basename = splitpath( path )
```

This returns the leading directories and the last element in a path. The leading directory will be *nil* if there is no directory and an empty string if the path is the root path. E.g.

```
a : dirname = nil ; basename = "a";
/a : dirname = "" ; basename = "a";
```

### String Manipulation

These functions are available in the *saotrace.suplib.strings* file.

`str_interp`

```
interpolated_string = str_interp( string, vars )
```

Interpolate variables into strings. Variables are first searched for in the passed (optional) table, then in the environmental variables. Variables may be of the form `$VAR` or `${VAR}`, where `VAR` is a string which must begin with either a letter or an underscore `_`; the remaining characters may be letters, numbers, or underscores.

This implementation isn't quite correct as it makes two passes over the string to handle the different syntaxes.

## **COPYRIGHT AND LICENSE**

This software is copyright the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and is released under the GNU General Public License. You may find a copy at <http://www.fsf.org/copyleft/gpl.html>.

## **AUTHOR**

Diab Jerius <djerius@cfa.harvard.edu>