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Subject: Re: tilde file names in FINDFILE

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Thu, 02 Oct 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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William Thompson wrote:

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>
> Martin Schultz <mgs@io.harvard.edu> writes:
>
>> Hi everyone,
>
>> I am still using IDL 4 and AIX 3.2.5, but that shouldn't really matter
>> for the following question, I suppose:
>
>> When I am opening a file with
>>   OPENR,unit,'~/IDL/DATA/test.dat',/get_lun
>> it works fine. But if I try to find that file via
>>   PRINT,FINDFILE('~/IDL/DATA/test.dat')
>> I get an empty string indicating that IDL did not find it.
>
>> Does anyone know how to teach IDL to accept the '~' in FINDFILE ?
>> One option might be to use SPAWN,'echo $HOME',result but
>> (a) is this highly OS dependent
>> (b) does it not work for something like ~user/file.dat
>> Any ideas appreciated !
>
> This routine should do the trick, thanks to my colleague Dominic Zarro.
>
[... cut]
```

Thanks !

Actually, I received an e-mail suggesting to use the  
expand\_path() function, and this works, too. You can check routine  
file\_exist on my website (<http> below) how I use it now.

Thanks again, anyway,  
Martin.

-----Dr.  
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