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Subject: Re: Best way of detecting a directory  
Posted by [knipp](#) on Mon, 02 Jan 1995 13:46:03 GMT  
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Hi

I append a routine which does the job WITHOUT a system-call.  
It runs under SunOs (for sure), MsWindows (should be), but may  
easily modified for other OS.

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----- snip-snap -----

----- snip-snap -----;+

function exist\_dir, test\_dir, rcode=rcode

; function: checks existence of DIRECTORY

; -----

; START OF DESCRIPTION

;

; function      IPI, U Hannover 06'94

;                      06'94:

;

; METHOD:      checks existence of DIRECTORY

;              uses: OPENR,...,ERROR=ERROR

;

; INPUT PARAMETER: test\_dir    directory to test

;

; RETURNS:      1:      exists

;              0:      does NOT exists

;

; INPUT KEYWORDS : none

;

```

; OUTPUT KEYWORDS : rrcode    Return-code : 0 for o.k., -1 for ERROR
;
; EXAMPLE:
;
; print, exist_dir('$HOME')
;
; END OF DESCRIPTION
; -----
;-

```

```

ret_val = 0    ; return - value
rrrcode = 0    ; Return - code

```

```

; -----
; test input

```

```

if n_params() ne 1 then begin
  print,"The number of parameters was wrong:",n_params()
  doc_library,"exist_dir"
  return, ret_val
endif

```

```

if n_elements(test_dir) eq 0 then begin
  message, 'TEST_+DIR UNDEFINED : ', /info
  return, ret_val
endif

```

```

; -----
; OS ?

```

```

case !version.os of
  'windows': dir_delim = '\'
  else: dir_delim = '/'
endcase

```

```

; -----
; re-store

```

```

test = test_dir

```

```

; -----
; length

```

```

len = strlen(test)

```

```
; -----  
; delimiter at end?  
  
if strmid(test, len-1, 1) eq dir_delim $  
    then test = strmid(test, 0, len-1)  
  
; -----  
; open  
  
openr, uni, test, /get_lun, error=error  
  
; -----  
; check  
  
if error ne 0 then return, 0  
  
; -----  
; close  
  
free_lun, uni  
  
; -----  
; return & end  
  
rcode = 0  
  
return, 1  
end
```

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