FILE_SEARCH does have a bug when searching through subdirectories with
folder names containing brackets (i.e
\data\bad[folder]here\not_found.txt). All contents below the bracketed
file would not be found.

I am using IDL 6.0 on windows. RSI confirmed the problem and it is set
to be corrected in future releases. Don't know if problem was on other
platform.

It appears that FILE_SEARCH was treating subdirectory names as though
they required wildcard expansion (my prognosis).

Hope this helps,
Mark

Kenneth Bowman <k-bowman@null.tamu.edu> wrote in message
news:<k-bowman-FF0F92.17005104062004@news.tamu.edu>...
> In article <c9qlvd$b8q$1@news01.cit.cornell.edu>,
> Jonathan Joseph <jj21@cornell.edu> wrote:
>
>> One of the reasons FILE_SEARCH is so nice though, is that it doesn't run
>> up agains the OS limit on argument list length. If I try to do an ls
>> with a wildcard (like *.txt) and specify the full path, I get
>> "/usr/bin/ls: Arg list too long." Currently, if I actually cd to the
>> directory, I won't get that particular error, but as files continue to
>> accumulate, that may not be true for much longer.
>
> I think this is a shell (not an OS) limitation. I believe the solution
> (under unix systems), is to use find instead of ls.
>
> Ken Bowman