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Subject: Re: file\_lines and expand path

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Fri, 04 Aug 2006 16:39:26 GMT

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FL wrote:

> Hi,

>

> I am implementing file\_lines in FL and was wondering what to return when  
> the input path expands to multiple files. The IDL reference guide says  
> nothing. I have run IDL and got curious result:

>

> IDL> help, file\_lines('\*.pro')

> <Expression> LONG64 = 15

>

> I have 448 .pro files in the current directory, with a total of 10k lines.

> IDL seems to be randomly picking a single file and reporting its length  
> (probably the first match in readdir()).

>

> What do you expect to get?

>

> Possibilities:

>

> 1. never expand (but why do we have NOEXPAND then?)

So that you can open files which have names containing characters that  
happen to be wildcard characters.

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