
Subject: Re: file_search: need work around for filenames with square brackets []
Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Mon, 15 Jun 2009 23:36:33 GMT
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On Mon, 15 Jun 2009 15:09:15 -0700 (PDT), rklein wrote:

```
> I'd rather go sailing, but could you come back from the tennis court
> please and have a look at this idl journal:
>
> ; IDL Version 7.0, Microsoft Windows (Win32 x86 m32)
> ; Journal File for Administrator@FIFILSTEST
> ; Working directory: C:\FIFILS\Software\FlightSoftware
> ; Date: Mon Jun 15 21:58:08 2009
>
> print,file_search("K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078*")
> ;K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078_[4,-4]_lw.dff
> ;K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078_[4,-4]_lw.fit
> ;K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078_[4,-4]_lw.rff
> print,file_search("K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078_[4,-4]_lw.df f ")
> print,file_search("K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078_/[4,-4/]_lw.df f ")
> print,file_search("K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData
> \20090403_095540\00098_153217_spiral162_@0078_[4,-4]_lw.dff")
>
> Of course, I tried escaping the brackets, but it does not work as you
> can see from the above. May be I should have mentioned that I am
> running on Windows
```

The square brackets are interpreted as wildcards by file_search. You can put a single square bracket into square brackets ("[]" for "[" and "]" for "]") and file_search may do what you want.

Example:

```
print,file_search(" K:\OBSERVATIONS\archiveData\20090403_095540\00098_153217_spi
ral162_@0078_[4,-4]_lw.dff ")
```

HTH, Heinz
