Subject: Re: file search: need work around for filenames with square brackets [] Posted by pariais on Mon, 15 Jun 2009 22:25:23 GMT

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rklein wrote:
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- > On Jun 6, 7:03 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
- >> rklein writes:
- >>> the routines for reading FITS-files in the IDL astro library use
- >>> file search() internally. Now I want to read a file name with square
- >>> brackets (as this "[" and " this"]") in it, but file search seems to
- >>> interpret the square brackets as regular expression. Is there a way to
- >>> escape the brackets?
- >>> Other suggestions?
- >>> I don't really want to change the library routines not rename the
- >>> files I have to read.

>>

- >> Yeah, I hear you. I want to play tennis and hike in
- >> the mountains instead of going to work every day. :-(

>>

>> Have you tried a back slash as an escape character?

- > 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

In fact, the expansion is performed by the shell (so it's not a regular expression kind of thing). So, you should use the character that the windows shell uses for escaping. I am not sure myself what this character is, but you may want to try the ^ character.

Ciao, Paolo