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Subject: Re: Problem with IDL and fits

Posted by [pfp](#) on Wed, 22 Jul 2009 20:20:00 GMT

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On Jul 22, 3:33 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Barbara writes:

>> I know it's in the path because I can see it in the folder that I have  
>> set as my path. When i print file\_which I get empty space. I can open  
>> it in the editor box, but when I try to compile, it tells me it  
>> doesn't exist. but obviously it does!

>

> If you don't see it with FILE\_WHICH, it is \*not\* in  
> your path. :-)

>

The reason it is not in the path could also be mismatching case in the file name, if it is a system where case matters (such as Linux). If the file got named "FITS\_HELP.PRO", for instance, since IDL would be looking for "fits\_help.pro". If that is the case, file\_which ("FITS\_HELP.PRO") would find it, but just calling the procedure would not.

The idlastro files come all in lower case in the tar file, but still it might have been changed in a copy from a Windows filesystem, or if the file was saved by hand (as in going to [http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/fits/fits\\_help.pro](http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/fits/fits_help.pro) and saving the page contents from the browser).

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