
Subject: Re: tilde file names in FINDFILE

Posted by [thompson](#) on Wed, 01 Oct 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Martin Schultz <mgs@io.harvard.edu> writes:

> Hi everyone,

> I am still using IDL 4 and AIX 3.2.5, but that shouldn't really matter

> for the following question, I suppose:

> When I am opening a file with

> OPENR,unit,'~/IDL/DATA/test.dat',/get_lun

> it works fine. But if I try to find that file via

> PRINT,FINDFILE('~/IDL/DATA/test.dat')

> I get an empty string indicating that IDL did not find it.

> Does anyone know how to teach IDL to accept the '~' in FINDFILE ?

> One option might be to use SPAWN,'echo \$HOME',result but

> (a) is this highly OS dependent

> (b) does it not work for something like ~user/file.dat

> Any ideas appreciated !

This routine should do the trick, thanks to my colleague Dominic Zarro.

```
=====
=====
;+
; Project   : SOHO - CDS
;
; Name      : EXPAND_TILDE
;
; Purpose   : expand tilde in UNIX directory names
;
; Category  : system
;
; Explanation :
;
; Syntax    : IDL> output=expand_tilde(input)
;
; Examples  : output=expand_tilde('~zarro/test.doc')
;            ---> output='/usr/users/zarro'
;
; Inputs    : INPUT = input file or directory name
;
; Opt. Inputs :
;
; Outputs   : OUTPUT = expanded filename
```

```

;
; Opt. Outputs: None
;
; Keywords   : None
;
; Common     : None
;
; Restrictions: None
;
; Side effects: None.
;
; History    : Version 1, 17-Feb-1997, D M Zarro. Written
; Version 2, 15-Sep-1997, W. T. Thompson
; Brought into line with Astrolib version
;
; Contact    : DZARRO@SOLAR.STANFORD.EDU
;-

```

```

function expand_tilde,name
if N_elements(name) EQ 0 then return,"
if datatype(name) ne 'STR' then return,name
tpos=strpos(name,'~')
if tpos eq -1 then return,name
spos=strpos(name,'/')
if spos eq -1 then begin
  dir=name
  rest=""
endif else begin
  dir=strmid(name,0,spos)
  rest=strmid(name,spos+1,strlen(name))
endelse
cd,dir,curr=curr
cd,curr,curr=dcurr
if rest ne "" then tname=dcurr+'/'+rest else tname=dcurr
return,tname & end

```
