Subject: Re: FILE\_DIRNAME question
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 19 Sep 2005 20:08:00 GMT
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## Kenneth Bowman writes:

```
> Can anyone explain what I am doing wrong here?
>
> IDL> print, FILE DIRNAME(['top', 'middle'], /MARK)
> IDL> print, FILE_DIRNAME('/top/middle/', /MARK)
> /top/
No, I can't explain it, because I don't understand it.
I mucked around with it for awhile, then wrote my own,
which was more convenient for me, too, because I could
obtain the base filename, the directory name, and the file
extension all at once.
 http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_base_filename.pro
It works like this:
 filename = '/top/middle/myfile.jpg'
 b = FSC_Base_Filename(filename, Directory=d, Extension=)
 Print, 'Directory: ', d
 Print, 'Filename: ', b
 Print, 'Extension: ', e
Or, in an IDL session.
IDL> filename = '/top/middle/myfile.jpg'
IDL> b = FSC_Base_Filename(filename, Directory=d, $
IDL>
         Extension=e, Path_Sep='/')
IDL> Print, 'Directory: ', d
Directory: /top/middle/
IDL> Print, 'Filename: ', b
Filename: myfile
IDL> Print, 'Extension: ', e
Extension: jpg
Or, as in your example:
IDL> filename = '/top/middle/'
IDL>
      b = FSC_Base_Filename(filename, Directory=d, $
IDL>
         Extension=e, Path_Sep='/')
       Print, 'Directory: ', d
IDL>
Directory: /top/middle/
```

IDL> Print, 'Filename: ', b Filename: IDL> Print, 'Extension: ', e Extension: The path separator is returned by PATH\_SEP, but if you want to make separate a UNIX path on a Windows machine, or visa versa, you can specify what the path separator should be via a keyword. Cheers, David David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting, Inc. Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/ Subject: Re: FILE\_DIRNAME question Posted by btt on Mon, 19 Sep 2005 20:38:18 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message Kenneth Bowman wrote: > Can anyone explain what I am doing wrong here? > > IDL> print, FILE\_DIRNAME(['top', 'middle'], /MARK) > ./ ./ > IDL> print, FILE\_DIRNAME('/top/middle/', /MARK) > /top/ > > Hi, I have the same system and version. I'm not sure what to think, but I wonder why you are comparing '/top...' with 'top'. I have always assumed that the leading '/' was an important component of the path description. At least when I do the following I get what I expect to get. IDL> print, FILE\_DIRNAME(['/top', '/middle'], /MARK) //

Ben

## Subject: Re: FILE\_DIRNAME question Posted by JD Smith on Mon, 19 Sep 2005 21:24:55 GMT

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On Mon, 19 Sep 2005 12:43:02 -0500, Kenneth Bowman wrote:

```
Can anyone explain what I am doing wrong here?
IDL> print, FILE_DIRNAME(['top', 'middle'], /MARK)
./ ./
IDL> print, FILE_DIRNAME('/top/middle/', /MARK)
/top/
```

Ummm, nothing? The first one has two relative file names, so their directory is the current directory, aka ".", or "./" when you are using /MARK. Maybe you meant:

IDL> print, filepath(ROOT='top','middle') top/middle

JD

Subject: Re: FILE\_DIRNAME question
Posted by Kenneth P. Bowman on Mon, 19 Sep 2005 23:44:21 GMT
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In article <pan.2005.09.19.21.24.55.124175@as.arizona.edu>, JD Smith <jdsmith@as.arizona.edu> wrote:

```
On Mon, 19 Sep 2005 12:43:02 -0500, Kenneth Bowman wrote:
Can anyone explain what I am doing wrong here?
IDL> print, FILE_DIRNAME(['top', 'middle'], /MARK)
/./
IDL> print, FILE_DIRNAME('/top/middle/', /MARK)
/top/
Ummm, nothing? The first one has two relative file names, so their
directory is the current directory, aka ".", or "./" when you are
using /MARK. Maybe you meant:
IDL> print, filepath(ROOT='top', 'middle')
top/middle
JD
```

Ah well, I have never have been able to make sense of the documentation for most of the FILE routines. I thought FILEPATH was obsolescent, like FINDFILE. I guess it was the consistent procedure naming convention that threw me. ;-)

So, how does everyone assemble a platform-independent path from an array of directory names?

Ken

Subject: Re: FILE\_DIRNAME question Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 20 Sep 2005 00:21:37 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

## Kenneth P. Bowman writes:

- > So, how does everyone assemble a platform-independent path from an array
- > of directory names?

I use FILEPATH. I'm pretty sure it's not obsolete. At least if it is, it just confirms that I am too, since I use it every day. :-)

Cheers,

David

David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/