
Subject: Re: Spaces in Mac file names

Posted by [jeffnetles4870](#) on Sat, 13 Apr 2013 18:33:45 GMT

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On Saturday, April 13, 2013 1:30:22 PM UTC-4, kagol...@lbl.gov wrote:

> Regarding spaces in Mac file and directory names: I know this is an old topic, but is there a generally accepted method, or a library function in someone's IDL library, to take a file name as input and output a copy with the spaces escaped properly with backslashes?

>

>

>

> In other words, take

>

> /this/directory/has spaces/youknow.txt

>

> and output

>

> /this/directory/has\ spaces/youknow.txt

>

>

>

> I need this for a spawn command to work on arbitrary files. Thanks!

I usually do this:

```
ENVI> path = '/this/directory/has spaces/youknow.txt'
```

```
ENVI> print, strjoin(strsplit(path, ' ', /extract), '\')
```

```
/this/directory/has\ spaces/youknow.txt
```

Subject: Re: Spaces in Mac file names

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Sun, 14 Apr 2013 04:19:23 GMT

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On 4/13/13 12:33 PM, Jeff N. wrote:

> On Saturday, April 13, 2013 1:30:22 PM UTC-4, kagol...@lbl.gov wrote:

>> Regarding spaces in Mac file and directory names: I know this is an old topic, but is there a generally accepted method, or a library function in someone's IDL library, to take a file name as input and output a copy with the spaces escaped properly with backslashes?

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>> /this/directory/has\ spaces/youknow.txt
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>>
>> I need this for a spawn command to work on arbitrary files. Thanks!
>
> I usually do this:
>
> ENVI> path = '/this/directory/has spaces/youknow.txt'
> ENVI> print, strjoin(strsplit(path, ' ', /extract), '\ ')
> /this/directory/has\ spaces/youknow.txt
>
```

Careful, multiple spaces won't be treated correctly. Use /PRESERVE_NULL:

```
IDL> path = '/this/directory/has spaces/you know.txt'
IDL> print, strjoin(strsplit(path, ' ', /extract), '\ ')
/this/directory/has\ spaces/you\ know.txt
IDL> print, strjoin(strsplit(path, ' ', /extract, /preserve_null), '\ ')
/this/directory/has\ spaces/you\ \ know.txt
```

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

www.michaelgalloy.com

Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

Research Mathematician

Tech-X Corporation
