Subject: Re: FindFile for more than one filetype
Posted by Paul van Delst on Thu, 20 Dec 2001 21:05:18 GMT

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Sue wrote:
>
> Hello,
>
> I have a folder full of *_average.int files where the * represents
> different years (1981-2000).
>
> I am trying to make it so that my variable, filelist, equals two
> files: (1)1981_average.int and (2)1982_average.int and then the next
> time, filelist equals: (1)1982_average.int and (2)1983_average.int and
> so on. It is also important that I get the filecount to equal 2.
>
> However, I can not figure out how to do it using the FindFile function
> using the IDL language.
>
> This is what I have so far...(of course there is other stuff in btwn)
>
> for yr = 1981, 2000 do begin
>
> filelist = FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')
>   + '*'+ '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)
>   and
>   FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')+ '*'
>   + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)
>
> endfor
>
> trying to use the "AND" here gives me an error about how strings can
> not be used in this way or something but I left the code up here so
> that the concept of what I want to achieve is clear.
>
> Thanks.
> Sue

Why not do:

```
 ; -- Get the list of all the files you want
 all_files = FINDFILE( outpath + '*_average.int', COUNT = n_files )

 ; -- Set the start year
 start_year = 1981L

 ; -- Loop over blocks of two files
 FOR i = 0L, n_files - 2L DO BEGIN
```

```
  ; -- Indices for the two files you want
  index = [ i, i+1 ]

  ; -- Years for the two files you want
  year = LONG( index ) + start_year

  ; -- Pluck 'em out
  filelist = all_files[ index ]

  ; -- Do stuff with 'em
  ......

 ENDFOR
```

Will this work? The files should be in the correct order since their prefix is the year number - but you might want to do a sort anyway to check before you enter the loop. You can also extract out the year from the file name string if needs be but adding the index seems to be easier.

paulv

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