
Subject: Re: Return the name of the last (newest) file ?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 13 Aug 2002 17:09:31 GMT
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Kolbjorn Bekkelund (kobe@rocketrange.no) writes:

> I'm modifying an old IDL-routine (under Linux and IDL 5.4), plotting some of our ozone lidar data.
> This has to be done manually today, but I'm working against an automation
> of this job now. The final stage here is to have IDL run by cron, finding the last
> (newest) file by itself and process it.
>
> Now I'm using this approach:
>
> FileTable=dialog_pickfile(/read, filter='/data/ozon/dialdata/ozon-online/*')
>
> which isn't very automatic :-)

No. :-)

I think you are going to have to use FindFile to get your list of files. Then you are going to have to sort the list. You DON'T want to use the IDL SORT command to do that, since a unique sort order is not guaranteed. Have a look at the BSORT command from the NASA astronomy library. (Perhaps someone could provide a link, I don't have it at the moment.) With luck, that will be enough and you won't have to resort to more aggressive string processing techniques.

Cheers,

David

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