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Subject: Re: read\_ascii for many rows / possible to create automatic names for variables

Posted by [britta.mey](#) on Sat, 05 Jan 2008 18:00:42 GMT

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On Jan 5, 4:56 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Britta writes:

>> a Happy New Year and a new question concerning this stuff. I'd like to  
>> use a for loop to use this routine for many files of the same type,  
>> but i end alway up in errors (loops are really one of my  
>> infirmnesses).

>

>> How can i deal with this?

>

> Ah, yes. Well, you need a doctor. You have come to the  
> right place if you want a loopy one. :-)

>

>> Where do i have to use the indices for the  
>> different files?

>

> The best thing for you to do is to probably learn  
> how to put a breakpoint in your code so you can  
> walk through it a couple of times, understanding  
> how it works. Once you do that, I can't imagine  
> you ever having trouble with loop indices again.  
> It might help to have a piece of paper and a pencil  
> handy, as well as a clear idea of what it is you  
> \*expect\* the program to do.

>

>> #####

>

>> files = FILE\_SEARCH('E:\Dissertation\field\_campaigns  
>> \Megacities07\spectrometer  
>> \Megacities07\_2\PC1\_VIS\_VN3\_VN1\cosinus\_vn1\90\normal\VISA-  
>> CH2\_VIS2\ALBEDO\*.dat',count=nfiles)  
>> files\_dif= FILE\_SEARCH('E:\Dissertation\field\_campaigns  
>> \Megacities07\spectrometer  
>> \Megacities07\_2\PC1\_VIS\_VN3\_VN1\cosinus\_vn1\90\dark\VISA-  
>> CH2\_VIS2\ALBEDO\*.dat',count=nfiles\_dif)

>

>> for i=0,nfiles-1 do begin

>

>> rows = File\_Lines(files)

>

> Your immediate problem is here. The purpose of the line above  
> is to find out how many rows there are in the file you are  
> about to read. You have passed it the whole list of files.  
> Naturally, FILE\_LINES is confused. :-)

>  
> Since files is a long list, and since you are doing this  
> is a loop, with the index I, you will want to subscript this  
> list with the index in order to find the right file:  
>  
> rows = File\_Lines(files[I])  
>  
> Or, if I wanted this code to be even clearer, I might write  
> something like this:  
>  
> FOR j=0,nfiles-1 to BEGIN  
>     thisfile = files[j]  
>     rows = File\_Lines(thisfile)  
>  
> It is not clear to me from your code what you expect to do  
> with this data you are collecting from all these files,  
> but perhaps we can solve that problem later. :-)  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>  
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hello David,

thank you. I'll try this. The data files are the output of a spectrometer (measurements of solar radiation) and the output of the calibration respectively. :-)

Cheers,  
Britta

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