
Subject: Re: IDL batch indexing

Posted by [rkombiyil](#) on Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:53 GMT

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On Mar 11, 4:06 pm, metachronist <rkombi...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Mar 11, 2:30 pm, Raghu <raghuram.narasim...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Hi all,

>

>> I am writing a batch processing routine in order to do some querying.

>

>> Steps:

>

>> 1) Read in 30 images (could be 60 or more..hence using batch)

>

>> Since i am using a file_search method to read in all the files, i want
>> each file to be given a unique name or ID because i need to compare
>> them with each other. So, instead of reading in 30 files separately
>> and assigning variable names to them, i want to do it automatically
>> using a counter in a loop or something like that.

>

>> Eg: if i=0 and numfiles=30,

>> i want to name the first file thats read b1, second file b2, third b3,
>> 30th as b30.

>> Once these are named, i want to be able to compare b1 to b2 or b3 to
>> b5 etc.

>> So, its not just about naming these files since that can be done with
>> a strmid function.

>

>> my idea was something like

>

>> names=file_search(*.img,count=numfiles)

>> while i lt numfiles

>> b[i]=names(i)

>

>> I have tried it and it says b is not defined. I am guessing i cannot
>> name variables dynamically.

>

>> I don't know if i am very clear about my problem.

>> Basically, i want to be able to assign unique variable names to each
>> file thats read so that i can use those unique IDs to query and
>> compare.

>

>> Any ideas ? i can give more information or try to be clearer about my
>> problem if necessary.

>

```
>> Raghu  
>  
> this worked for me.  
> --  
> names=file_search('*.img',count=numfiles)  
> b=strarr(numfiles)  
> for i=0,numfiles-1 do b[i]=names[i]  
> --  
> /rk
```

Well, Reimar is right. I have never used `file_search`, I always make rather heavy use of `spawn` along with the `*inx "find"` command for such needs. I thought of it only as a programming error, in the sense 'b' can be defined based on 'numfiles'. Anyway, my mistake, `names` is already an array, heh..
