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Subject: Re: read multiple files with varying names  
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Mon, 25 May 2009 15:04:32 GMT  
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sophie.hoss@gmail.com wrote:

> hey guys  
>  
> probably a simple syntax question:  
>  
> i need to read multiple ascii files (all in one folder), with  
> different names.  
> e.g.  
> ci0201.004  
> ci0202.004  
> ...  
> do0201.004  
>  
> i want to read all of them that start with "ci", store them in one  
> file, then read all of them that start with "do", store them and so  
> on. (in order to extract data from them later on)

one way is to use file\_search

```
print, file_search('ci*.004')
```

you can save the result to a new file.

Jean

>  
> I used to read in files with readf in older programmes, like  
>  
> openr, lun, 'filepath/\*.dat', /GET\_LUN  
> header = strarr(3)  
> READF, lun, header  
>  
> but there it wasnt necessary to "group" them, means to read only the  
> ones starting with some specific letters...  
>  
>  
>  
> the other idea I had is simply to include an IF statement somewhere to  
> exclude all files that DON'T start with the specific letter.  
> But I'm SURE there's a more elegant solution to this.. I just don't  
> know it :)  
>  
> thanks for your help

> sophie

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