Subject: Re: read multiple files with varying names
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 25 May 2009 15:01:58 GMT

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sophie.hoss@gmail.com writes:

> 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)
>
> I used to read in files with readf in older programms, 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 :)

You are looking for FILE_SEARCH.

```
CD, mydatadir
ci_files = FILE_SEARCH('ci*', COUNT=num_ci_files_found)
do_files = FILE_SEARCH('do*', COUNT=num_do_files_found)
```

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")