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Subject: Re: read multiple files with varying names  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 29 May 2009 13:15:30 GMT  
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sophie.hoss@gmail.com writes:

```
> Jean, thanks for that, but I'm still stuck with the same problem no
> matter how I do it. I cut the code short to
>
> CD, 'filepath'
> ci_files = FILE_SEARCH('ci*', COUNT=3Dnum_ci_files_found)
>
> for i = 0,(num_ci_files_found-1) do begin
>
>   file = ci_files(i)
>   rows = File_Lines(file)
>   OpenR, lun, file, /Get_Lun
>   header = StrArr(34)
>   ReadF, lun, header
>   Point_Lun, -lun, currentLocation
>   data = strarr(12, rows-(n_elements(header))); i know there's 12 cols
>     readF, lun, data
>
>           ; from here on I want to extract one column only and
> save this column (radiation data from one station for one month) in a
> file where I later add values from all other stations for this
> specific month, then take the average from all stations over the whole
> month)
>
> --> READF: End of file encountered.
```

What this means is that you are trying to read data past the end of the file. In other words, you are trying to read more data than is actually in the file. In practical terms, it is likely the number of rows is wrong, as you seem sure about the number of columns.

Programs that count the number of rows in a file, such as FILE\_LINES, actually just counts the number of "end of line" characters found in the file. This is an inexact science. Your data file may not have an end-of-line character on the last line of the file. In which case, FILE\_LINES will report one less line that you actually have in the file (not your problem here). Or, there may be extra, blank lines, in the file (usually at the end of the file). Then, FILE\_LINES would report \*more\* lines than there are lines with actual data on them. In which case you would try to read more data that exists and you would get this error. This seems the most likely explanation to me. :-)

It may be you have to do some "conditioning" of your data files before you try to read them.

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.")

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