
Subject: Re: How to run a program for datasets located in different folders at a single stretch

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 28 Jul 2010 12:22:44 GMT

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sid writes:

> I have a program which I need to run for several data sets (which
> are in different different folders), Since the number of folders in
> which the data sets present are huge in number, it is very difficult
> to go to that folder in which the dataset is and then copy the program
> to that particular folder and run it(orelse i need to copy the
> location of the dataset in the program, which is also a difficult
> task). So please give some ideas to run the program for all the
> datasets in different folder at a single stretch.

I have the problem of writing IDL programs that not only run on the three different machines that I juggle on a daily basis, but run on scientists and collaborators machines, too. It is almost impossible to specify a data file name that works everywhere.

Since the files I am looking for are often mixed in with IDL programs somewhere on the end-users IDL path, I use the Coyote Library routine `FIND_RESOURCE_FILE` to locate them:

```
dataFile = Find_Resource_File('theFileForJob.dat')
```

It is kind of like IDL's search for *.pro files, only for data files.

It can often be slow (if the user has a large IDL path), but it almost always does the job!

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/find_resource_file.pro

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.")
