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Subject: Finding a large number of files - ls vs file\_search?

Posted by [rjp23](#) on Tue, 09 Aug 2011 08:56:57 GMT

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I have ascii output from some code that numbers in the tens of thousands of files (e.g. 60,000).

I want to read these in in IDL, check the result and only select the files where the result meets a certain condition.

I have this all coded up and it works fine for smaller sets of data but it can take a long long time for file\_search to return a result when searching 60,000 files.

My question is would it be more efficient to spawn an ls command or something else rather than using file\_search within IDL?

Cheers

Rob

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