
Subject: Re: reading files with long names on win95 and idl4.0.1
Posted by [David R. Klassen](#) on Sat, 01 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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Mirko Vukovic wrote:

> I am running IDL4.0.1 on windows95. I have a problem of not being able
> to open (data) files with file names longer than eight characters.

This problem is really more complicated than it first appears as IDL seems

to be able to handle long filenames in *some* situations but not all.

In

the various open statements if you give it a filename directly it will not

work unless that name is in the standard 8.3 format. However if you assign the filename to a string variable and then use that variable in your open statement then you can use long filenames. *However* you cannot

just use any name. If you put in more than one "." in the name then you cannot put more than three character between any two "."s.

The other problem is when using routines that have names longer than 8 characters. You have to make sure that all routines you use are in files

that are in 8.3 format.

RSI claims that v.5 will handle long filenames properly. I haven't tried it

yet but I'm looking forward to it!

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David R. Klassen
Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of Wyoming
Box 3905 University Station
Laramie WY 82071
<http://faraday.uwyo.edu/grads/dklassen/>
drk@uwyo.edu
