
Subject: End of Array - like - End Of File

Posted by [Emmler, Oliver](#) on Fri, 27 Jul 2001 15:59:09 GMT

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Hi all,

i have a directory with different numbers of files. I read the filenames by

```
text = FINDFILE('H:/radiologie/*.dcm')
```

in my testdirectory there are 14 files so it's defined when to stop

```
FOR i=0,14 DO file[*,i] = READ_DICOM(text[i])
```

QUESTION:

How can i get the size of the array TEXT to stop by FOR i=0,stop DO ...

Is there something like EOA (EndOfArray) like EOF ?

Thanks,

Oliver Emmler

--

Oliver Emmler

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Subject: Re: End of Array - like - End Of File

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sun, 19 Aug 2001 17:22:06 GMT

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"Emmler, Oliver" wrote:

>

> Hi all,

> i have a directory with different numbers of files. I read the filenames by

>

> text = FINDFILE('H:/radiologie/*.dcm')

you should use the count keyword of findfile

```
Result = FINDFILE( File_Specification [, COUNT=variable] )
```

```
FOR i=0,count-1 do ...
```

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

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read something about linux / windows

<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

Subject: Re: End of Array - like - End Of File

Posted by [weitkamp](#) on Mon, 20 Aug 2001 07:46:34 GMT

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Reimar's suggestion of using the COUNT keyword to FINDFILE is indeed *much* better than using N_ELEMENTS, because the latter will result in an error when the file list is empty (unless you use an additional line to catch that situation). The reason is that when FINDFILE finds no matches, its return value is a scalar null string, and N_ELEMENTS() of that is one (not zero).

Reimar Bauer <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> wrote in message

news:<3B7FF5BE.526BE6@fz-juelich.de>...

> "Emmler, Oliver" wrote:

>>

>> Hi all,

>> i have a directory with different numbers of files. I read the filenames by

>>

>> text = FINDFILE('H:/radiologie/*.dcm')

>

> you should use the count keyword of findfile

>

> Result = FINDFILE(File_Specification [, COUNT=variable])

>

> FOR i=0,count-1 do ...

>

> regards

> Reimar

>

> --

> Reimar Bauer

>
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> =====
> a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.h tml
>
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html
> =====
>
> read something about linux / windows
> http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html

Subject: Re: End of Array - like - End Of File
Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Mon, 20 Aug 2001 14:36:00 GMT
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Timm Weitkamp wrote:

>
> Reimar's suggestion of using the COUNT keyword to FINDFILE is indeed
> *much* better than using N_ELEMENTS, because the latter will result in
> an error when the file list is empty (unless you use an additional
> line to catch that situation). The reason is that when FINDFILE finds
> no matches, its return value is a scalar null string, and N_ELEMENTS()
> of that is one (not zero).
>
> Reimar Bauer <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> wrote in message
news:<3B7FF5BE.526BE6@fz-juelich.de>...
>> "Emmler, Oliver" wrote:
>>>
>>> Hi all,
>>> i have a directory with different numbers of files. I read the filenames by
>>>
>>> text = FINDFILE('H:/radiologie/*.dcm')
>>
>> you should use the count keyword of findfile
>>
>> Result = FINDFILE(File_Specification [, COUNT=variable])
>>
>> FOR i=0,count-1 do ...
>>
>> regards
>> Reimar

I actually prefer the following syntax:

```
list = findfile('*.dcm')
if (list[0] ne "") then begin
  ;- process each name in list
endif
```

This takes advantage of the fact that FINDFILE returns a null string if no files are found.

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
<http://www.gumley.com/>

Subject: Re: End of Array - like - End Of File
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 24 Aug 2001 10:02:58 GMT
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"Liam E. Gumley" wrote:

>

> Timm Weitkamp wrote:

>>

>> Reimar's suggestion of using the COUNT keyword to FINDFILE is indeed
>> *much* better than using N_ELEMENTS, because the latter will result in
>> an error when the file list is empty (unless you use an additional
>> line to catch that situation). The reason is that when FINDFILE finds
>> no matches, its return value is a scalar null string, and N_ELEMENTS()
>> of that is one (not zero).

>>

>> Reimar Bauer <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> wrote in message
news:<3B7FF5BE.526BE6@fz-juelich.de>...

>>> "Emmler, Oliver" wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Hi all,

>>>> i have a directory with different numbers of files. I read the filenames by

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>>>> text = FINDFILE('H:/radiologie/*.dcm')

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>>> you should use the count keyword of findfile

>>>

>>> Result = FINDFILE(File_Specification [, COUNT=variable])

>>>

>>> FOR i=0,count-1 do ...

>>>

>>> regards

>>> Reimar

>

```

> I actually prefer the following syntax:
>
> list = findfile('*.dcm')
> if (list[0] ne "") then begin
>   ;- process each name in list
> endif
>
> This takes advantage of the fact that FINDFILE returns a null string if
> no files are found.
>

```

I know but there are always different result values if a function gives no results.

The most popular are -1, "", 0 and <null pointer>

The count is known by where too and some others. This gives a possibility to write code always in the same way. And I like it much more as e.g.

```

if idx[0] ne -1 then ...
if ptr_valid(ptr) then ..
if list[0] ne "" then ..
if x[0] ne 0 then ..

```

Sometimes I wish all unknown results are returned as null pointer. But then I have to change all old routines.

regards

Reimar

```

> Cheers,
> Liam.
> Practical IDL Programming
> http://www.gumley.com/

```

--

Reimar Bauer

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 http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/

=====

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

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read something about linux / windows
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