
Subject: Re: FindFile for more than one filetype
Posted by [Richard Tyc](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2001 21:03:23 GMT
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```
> for yr = 1981, 2000 do begin  
>
```

How about something real simple like this to replace AND:

```
filelist = FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')  
+ '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)  
if filecnt NE 1 then break;
```

```
filelist = [ filelist, FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')  
+ '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount) ]  
if filecnt NE 1 then break;
```

```
> endfor
```

Rich

Subject: Re: FindFile for more than one filetype
Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2001 21:05:18 GMT
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Sue wrote:

```
>  
> Hello,  
>  
> I have a folder full of *_average.int files where the * represents  
> different years (1981-2000).  
>  
> I am trying to make it so that my variable, filelist, equals two  
> files: (1)1981_average.int and (2)1982_average.int and then the next  
> time, filelist equals: (1)1982_average.int and (2)1983_average.int and  
> so on. It is also important that I get the filecount to equal 2.  
>  
> However, I can not figure out how to do it using the FindFile function  
> using the IDL language.  
>  
> This is what I have so far...(of course there is other stuff in btwn)  
>  
> for yr = 1981, 2000 do begin  
>  
> filelist = FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')  
> + '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)  
> and  
> FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)') + '*'
```

```

>         + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)
>
> endfor
>
> trying to use the "AND" here gives me an error about how strings can
> not be used in this way or something but I left the code up here so
> that the concept of what I want to achieve is clear.
>
> Thanks.
> Sue

```

Why not do:

```

; -- Get the list of all the files you want
all_files = FINDFILE( outpath + '*_average.int', COUNT = n_files )

; -- Set the start year
start_year = 1981L

; -- Loop over blocks of two files
FOR i = 0L, n_files - 2L DO BEGIN

    ; -- Indices for the two files you want
    index = [ i, i+1 ]

    ; -- Years for the two files you want
    year = LONG( index ) + start_year

    ; -- Pluck 'em out
    filelist = all_files[ index ]

    ; -- Do stuff with 'em
    .....

ENDFOR

```

Will this work? The files should be in the correct order since their prefix is the year number - but you might want to do a sort anyway to check before you enter the loop. You can also extract out the year from the file name string if needs be but adding the index seems to be easier.

paulv

```

--
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```

Subject: Re: FindFile for more than one filetype

Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Fri, 21 Dec 2001 09:42:48 GMT

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> Sue wrote:

>>

>> filelist = FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')

>> + '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)

>> and

>> FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')+ '*'

>> + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)

>>

>> trying to use the "AND" here gives me an error about how strings can

>> not be used in this way or something but I left the code up here so

>> that the concept of what I want to achieve is clear.

>>

Hi Sue,

You were close, but since findfile returns a single string or a sting array for multiple files, what you want to do is add the two result together into a composite string array:

ie: composite_result = [result1, result2]

filelist = [FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)') +

'*_average.int', COUNT=filecount1), \$

FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')+

'*_average.int', COUNT=filecount2)]

then test filecount1 and filecount2 seperately for your error checking:

if (filecount1 ne 1) and (filecount2 ne 1) then message, "one or more files missing" ; or whatever

cheers

Martin

> "Paul van Delst" <paul.vandelst@noaa.gov> wrote in message
news:3C22528E.AFE25B1B@noaa.gov...

> Why not do:

>

> ; -- Get the list of all the files you want

> all_files = FINDFILE(outpath + '*_average.int', COUNT = n_files)

>

> ; -- Set the start year

> start_year = 1981L

>

> ; -- Loop over blocks of two files

> FOR i = 0L, n_files - 2L DO BEGIN

```

>
> ; -- Indices for the two files you want
> index = [ i, i+1 ]
>
> ; -- Years for the two files you want
> year = LONG( index ) + start_year
>
> ; -- Pluck 'em out
> filelist = all_files[ index ]
>
> ; -- Do stuff with 'em
> .....
>
> ENDFOR
>
> Will this work? The files should be in the correct order since their
prefix is the year number
> - but you might want to do a sort anyway to check before you enter the
loop. You can also
> extract out the year from the file name string if needs be but adding the
index seems to be
> easier.
>
> paulv

```

Paul,

I agree you should do a sort, but the potential weakness of this method is that it assumes the file list is both complete and does not contain any extra files. For instance, if year 1982 was missing, 1981 would be grouped with 1983. Also , if someone has inserted 1982a_average.int into the directory then there will similarly be problems.

Martin

Subject: Re: FindFile for more than one filetype
 Posted by [sargum_manley](#) on Fri, 21 Dec 2001 16:09:35 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Richard Tyc" <richt@sbrc.umanitoba.ca> wrote in message
 news:<9vtjoa\$mmt\$1@canopus.cc.umanitoba.ca>...
 >> for yr = 1981, 2000 do begin
 >>
 > How about something real simple like this to replace AND:
 >
 > filelist = FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')
 > + '*'+ '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)

```
> if filecnt NE 1 then break;
>
> filelist = [ filelist, FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')
>   + '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount) ]
> if filecnt NE 1 then break;
>
>> endfor
>
> Rich
```

I tried this and for some reason the filecount still equals 1, instead of 2. Interestingly enough, when I print filelist...I do get two files. Any ideas?

--Sue

Subject: Re: FindFile for more than one filetype
Posted by [James Kuyper Jr.](#) on Fri, 21 Dec 2001 17:41:17 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Sue wrote:

```
> "Richard Tyc" <richt@sbrc.umanitoba.ca> wrote in message
news:<9vtjoa$mmt$1@canopus.cc.umanitoba.ca>...
>
>>> for yr = 1981, 2000 do begin
>>>
>>
>> How about something real simple like this to replace AND:
>>
>>
>> filelist = FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')
>>   + '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount)
>> if filecnt NE 1 then break;
```

Change to:

```
if filecount NE 1 then break;
totalcnt = filecount

>>
>> filelist = [ filelist, FINDFILE(outpath + string(yr+1, FORMAT = '(I4.4)')
>>   + '*' + '_average.int', COUNT=filecount) ]
>> if filecnt NE 1 then break;
```

Change to:

```
if filecount NE 1 then break;
```

```
totalcnt = totalcnt + filecount;
```

```
>>
```

```
>>
```

```
>>> endfor
```

```
>>
```

```
>> Rich
```

```
>
```

```
> -----
```

```
> I tried this and for some reason the filecount still equals 1, instead
```

```
> of 2. Interestingly enough, when I print filelist...I do get two
```

```
> files. Any ideas?
```

```
> --Sue
```

With the given changes, filecount will still be 1, but totalcnt will now have the value of 2, as you expected.
