Tobi writes:

> is there an existing idl routine that returns a filename suffix?
>
> i have chosen a number of files using the DIALOG_PICKFILE() routine
> and now want to do different things depending on the suffix (IMG, JPG,
> GFX ...) of the file chosen.

There is a FILE_DIRNAME function for getting the directory
part of a file path. And a FILE_BASENAME function for getting
the base filename part of a file path. But, oddly I think,
neither gives you the opportunity to get the file extension.
(Although it is certainly not hard to extract the extension
from a base filename.)

So I've written my own function, FSC_BASE_FILENAME, that
can give you the base filename, the directory, and
the file extension, all at once. For example:

```
IDL> path = 'C:\RSI\David\Catalyst\catcoord__define.pro'
IDL> basename = FSC_BASE_FILENAME(path, Directory=dir, Extension=ext)
IDL> Print, dir
    C:\RSI\David\Catalyst\
IDL> Print, basename
    catcoord__define
IDL> Print, ext
    pro
```

You can find the program here:

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

I only use this program in interactive programs, so the input
is expected to come from something like Dialog_Pickfile
or Filepath. I haven't tested it on anything else. :-)

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: returning filename suffix
Posted by tbeetz on Tue, 24 Aug 2004 14:25:33 GMT
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david - thanks for the program! i also found it strange that there is
no routine provided by idl, since they could just return the extension
when they get they strip the filename ... thanks again!

TOBI