
Subject: Re: reading many files

Posted by [Ben Panter](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 14:55:25 GMT

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george wrote:

```
> data49-5.0-4.0.dat
> data50-5.0-4.0.dat
> ...
> data49-5.0-3.0.dat
> data50-5.0-3.0.dat
> ....
>
> i.e. with the following form
> data**-5.0-**.dat
```

Hi George,

I think you might want the STRING command with a FORMAT code. This takes a number and puts it into a string format which you can then add into your for loop. Off the top of my head, try something like

```
filename='data'+STRING(j,FORMAT='(I02)')+ '-5.0-'+STRING(i,FORMAT='(I1)')+ '.0.dat'
readcol, filename, ....
```

cheers,

Ben

--

Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.

Email false, <http://www.benpanter.co.uk>

or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Subject: Re: reading many files

Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 14:57:44 GMT

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george wrote:

```
> Hi folks,
>
> I have to write a short program that however have to read very many
> files with similar names like
>
> data49-5.0-4.0.dat
> data50-5.0-4.0.dat
> ...
```

> data49-5.0-3.0.dat
> data50-5.0-3.0.dat
>
>
> i.e. with the following form
> data**-5.0-**.dat

You can use file_search first to find all matching files

Result = FILE_SEARCH('/yourdirectory/subdir/data*-5.0-*.dat')

and then loop through the result array to read them in one by one.

Ciao,
Paolo

>
> The number of files is quite large, indeed, so I rather than to type
> any single file, I was wondering if there is any (I'm sure there's)
> way to read all this file with a FOR cicle like (obviosuly I don't
> know if the example is correct, since it's what I'm asking...)
>
> for j=49, 80 do begin
> for i=-4, 0 do begin
> readcol,somethings.....
> endfor
> endfor
>
>
> Thanks so much!
> G.
>
> Thanks a lot!
>

Subject: Re: reading many files
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:49:47 GMT
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george writes:

> The number of files is quite large, indeed, so I rather than to type
> any single file, I was wondering if there is any (I'm sure there's)
> way to read all this file with a FOR cicle like (obviosuly I don't
> know if the example is correct, since it's what I'm asking...)

FILE_SEARCH should be able to collect all those files in

one place for you. :-)

```
theFiles = File_Search('data??-5.0-???.dat')
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
