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Subject: IDL batch indexing

Posted by [raghuram](#) on Tue, 11 Mar 2008 05:30:41 GMT

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Hi all,

I am writing a batch processing routine in order to do some querying.

Steps:

1) Read in 30 images ( could be 60 or more..hence using batch)

Since i am using a file\_search method to read in all the files, i want each file to be given a unique name or ID because i need to compare them with each other. So, instead of reading in 30 files separately and assigning variable names to them, i want to do it automatically using a counter in a loop or something like that.

Eg: if i=0 and numfiles=30,

i want to name the first file thats read b1, second file b2, third b3, 30th as b30.

Once these are named, i want to be able to compare b1 to b2 or b3 to b5 etc.

So, its not just about naming these files since that can be done with a strmid function.

my idea was something like

```
names=file_search(*.img,count=numfiles)
while i lt numfiles
b[i]=names(i)
```

I have tried it and it says b is not defined. I am guessing i cannot name variables dynamically.

I don't know if i am very clear about my problem.

Basically, i want to be able to assign unique variable names to each file thats read so that i can use those unique IDs to query and compare.

Any ideas ? i can give more information or try to be clearer about my problem if necessary.

Raghu

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