
Subject: Finding a large number of files - ls vs file_search?

Posted by [rjp23](#) on Tue, 09 Aug 2011 08:56:57 GMT

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I have ascii output from some code that numbers in the tens of thousands of files (e.g. 60,000).

I want to read these in in IDL, check the result and only select the files where the result meets a certain condition.

I have this all coded up and it works fine for smaller sets of data but it can take a long long time for file_search to return a result when searching 60,000 files.

My question is would it be more efficient to spawn an ls command or something else rather than using file_search within IDL?

Cheers

Rob

Subject: Re: Finding a large number of files - ls vs file_search?

Posted by [rogass](#) on Wed, 31 Aug 2011 12:08:57 GMT

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On 9 Aug., 10:56, Rob <rj...@le.ac.uk> wrote:

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> thousands of files (e.g. 60,000).
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> something else rather than using file_search within IDL?
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> Cheers
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> Rob

Hi Rob,
just try the /no_sort keyword for file_search. Now it's fast, I think :)

Cheers

CR
