
Subject: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [quincyaflint](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 17:18:12 GMT
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Hello,

I am trying to write an IDL procedure that will compute the difference image of two photographs from FITS files. The procedure will take the name of a folder, then loop through to compute the difference image of consecutive files within that folder. Then I want it to, once it has done the difference imaging, save the resulting image in a new destination of my choice. Currently I am able to make the image pop up in a new window using the tv,xxx command. I am unsure on how to (1) give the procedure a FOLDER that it will go through all the files and (2) I don't know how to save the resulting image in a new destination. I would greatly appreciate any help!

Thanks

Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [quincyaflint](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 18:33:59 GMT
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I'm trying to use printf, but I'm not sure in what format this will save my image

Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 18:44:26 GMT
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quincyaflint@gmail.com writes:

> I'm trying to use printf, but I'm not sure in what format this will save my image

Well, you don't want that one, for sure.:-)

It is a text format. Not at all what you want. What format were you hoping for?

For your other questions, you want to look up File_Search and Dialog_Pickfile.

If you are new to programming, I would recommend Ken Bowman's book, An Introduction to Programming with IDL. It will get you started on these basic programming concepts.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 18:49:56 GMT
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You can use the 'save' procedure to save the data to an IDL .sav file.

The printf command will write data to a file in the format you specify. You probably want to be using save rather than printf, if I understand your posts correctly. See:
<http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/SAVE.html>

If you're talking about saving an actual plot, rather than the data in it, that's a different question. If you want a jpeg or png then IDL has routines for that, e.g.:
http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/WRITE_PNG.html (you'll also need to use tvrd before.)

If you want eps/pdf output then that involves a little more typing but is also pretty straightforward.

As to looping over files, you can do something like:

```
files=file_search(my_folder+'*.myformat',count=nfiles)
```

```
if nfiles gt 0 then begin
  for i=0,nfiles-1 do begin
    (do your stuff here)
  endfor
endif
```

Hope this helps,

Andy

On Friday, June 7, 2013 2:44:26 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

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> quincyafint@gmail.com writes:
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> David

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> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>
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Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [quincyflint](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 18:58:42 GMT
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Aaah yes,

I used printf and added the proper extension at the end of the file name and that did the trick.

Thanks!

Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [quincyflint](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 19:00:11 GMT
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This is what I ended up doing:

```
fit1 = '~quincy/Documents/19900103..rpb.vig.fts/19900103.214411.mk3 0.rpb.vig.fts'  
fit2 = '~quincy/Documents/19900103..rpb.vig.fts/19900103.213500.mk3 0.rpb.vig.fts'  
img1 = LASCO_READFITS(fit1,hr1)  
img2 = LASCO_READFITS(fit2,hr2)  
diff = img1 - img2  
img_diff = bytscl(diff,max=1200,min=-1200)  
img_395 = congrid(img_diff,395,395)
```

```
openw,1,'qtest19900103.214411.mk30.rpb.vig.fts'  
printf,1,img_395  
close,1
```

Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [quincyflint](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 20:13:00 GMT
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Hi Andy,

So I have figured out most of my loop. Is there a way for me to create a new folder within my documents from IDL? I'm wanting to create a folder with the name the files being read in, so I can easily just index the list if I knew a command for creating a file

Thanks

Subject: Re: IDL save result of procedure to file
Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Fri, 07 Jun 2013 21:31:04 GMT
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I think you're looking for this:

http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/FILE_MKDIR.html
