

---

Subject: Open text files consecutively without knowing names  
Posted by [morganlsilverman](#) on Fri, 19 Jul 2013 16:22:41 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hello,

I have several folders containing ascii files in each. The filenames within those folders are a grouping of numbers and letters corresponding to year, day, and other instrument characteristics (e.g 8358d47a.tps, 8358h41a.tps, 8358l35a.tps). Unfortunately there isn't a pattern or order to the filenames beyond the first couple digits which are connecting to the parent directory to easily open the files consecutively.

I want to open each file, read the data, then close and repeat on the next file. Is there a way to loop through the files in each directory without knowing specifically what the filenames are? I'm struggling with how to do this since.

Thank you. Sincerely,  
Morgan

---

---

Subject: Re: Open text files consecutively without knowing names  
Posted by [John Correia](#) on Fri, 19 Jul 2013 16:42:05 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On 07/19/2013 12:22 PM, Morgan Silverman wrote:

> Hello, I have several folders containing ascii files in each. The  
> filenames within those folders are a grouping of numbers and letters  
> corresponding to year, day, and other instrument characteristics (e.g  
> 8358d47a.tps, 8358h41a.tps, 8358l35a.tps). Unfortunately there isn't a  
> pattern or order to the filenames beyond the first couple digits which  
> are connecting to the parent directory to easily open the files  
> consecutively. I want to open each file, read the data, then close and  
> repeat on the next file. Is there a way to loop through the files in  
> each directory without knowing specifically what the filenames are?  
> I'm struggling with how to do this since. Thank you. Sincerely, Morgan

Should be something like this:

```
files = file_search('/path/to/your/files/', '*.tps', COUNT=nfiles)
```

```
for i=0, nfiles-1 do begin
```

```
    nlines = FILE_LINES(files[i])  
    data = STRARR(nlines)  
    OPENR, lunit, files[i], /get_lun  
    READF, lunit, data  
    CLOSE, lunit
```

FREE\_LUN, lunit

; Do some stuff here

endfor

---

Subject: Re: Open text files consecutively without knowing names

Posted by [morganlsilverman](#) on Fri, 19 Jul 2013 17:17:13 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Friday, July 19, 2013 12:42:05 PM UTC-4, John Correia wrote:

> On 07/19/2013 12:22 PM, Morgan Silverman wrote:

>

>> Hello, I have several folders containing ascii files in each. The

>

>> filenames within those folders are a grouping of numbers and letters

>

>> corresponding to year, day, and other instrument characteristics (e.g

>

>> 8358d47a.tps, 8358h41a.tps, 8358l35a.tps). Unfortunately there isn't a

>

>> pattern or order to the filenames beyond the first couple digits which

>

>> are connecting to the parent directory to easily open the files

>

>> consecutively. I want to open each file, read the data, then close and

>

>> repeat on the next file. Is there a way to loop through the files in

>

>> each directory without knowing specifically what the filenames are?

>

>> I'm struggling with how to do this since. Thank you. Sincerely, Morgan

>

>

>

>

>

> Should be something like this:

>

>

>

> files = file\_search('/path/to/your/files/', '\*.tps', COUNT=nfiles)

>

>

>

> for i=0, nfiles-1 do begin

>

```
>  
>  
> nlines = FILE_LINES(files[i])  
>  
> data = STRARR(nlines)  
>  
> OPENR, lunit, files[i], /get_lun  
>  
> READF, lunit, data  
>  
> CLOSE, lunit  
>  
> FREE_LUN, lunit  
>  
>  
>  
> ; Do some stuff here  
>  
>  
>  
> endfor
```

This is great. Thank you very much.

---

---

Subject: Re: Open text files consecutively without knowing names  
Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Fri, 19 Jul 2013 20:10:59 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Strictly speaking, you shouldn't need to close the lun if you use FREE\_LUN:

[http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/FREE\\_LUN.html](http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/FREE_LUN.html)

Just an FYI...

---