
Subject: File handling architecture hints wanted

Posted by [Runar Joergensen](#) on Wed, 15 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Do someone have an idea how to build, maintain and explore an dynamic data file architecture?

I'll elaborate a little more. My data is buried deep down in a dynamic file structure. Since this structure is changing, I need my IDL application to be able to follow/exploit new directories and appended files. It's not very dynamic, but changes, i.e. is extended, a couple of times during the year. Just enough so that maintaining hard coded directory paths would be a pain in the ... The structure looks something like this:

```
| -ss1 - ..
|
|      | - mm1 - datafiles
root--| -ss2 ----- yy1 -| - mm2 - datafiles
|      |
|      | - yy2 -..
:      :
:      :      | - mm1 - datafiles
:      :      | - mm2 - datafiles
:      | - yyn -|
:      :
|      | - mmn - datafiles
| -ssn-1 -..
|      | - mm1 - datafiles
| -ssn ----- yy1 -| - mm2 - datafiles
:      :
|      | - mmn - datafiles
|
| - yy2 -..
:
:      | - mm1 - datafiles
:      | - mm2 - datafiles
| - yyn -|
:
| - mmn - datafiles
```

Thus, I need to select on three levels, ss*, yy* and mm* to find the actual datafiles. Now, I thought of a nested structure architecture (three levels), and I've implemented something that gives me access to the datafiles through

```
file=ss().yy().mm().file
```

I works, but this solution requires that I know a lot about the structure

to be able to access it. Any better architectures?

Thanks in advance.

Runar Jorgensen ||
University of Oslo || Phone: +47 2285 5664
Department of Physics || Telefax: +47 2285 5671
P.O.Box 1048 Blindern || email: runar.jorgensen@fys.uio.no
0313 Oslo; Norway ||
