

---

Subject: reading files with long names on win95 and idl4.0.1  
Posted by [Mirko Vukovic](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I am running IDL4.0.1 on windows95. I have a problem of not being able to open (data) files with file names longer than eight characters.

Does anyone have some ideas on how to deal with this issue until V5 of IDL arrives?

TIA,

--

Mirko Vukovic, Ph.D 3075 Hansen Way M/S K-109  
Varian Associates Palo Alto, CA, 94304  
415/424-4969 [mirko.vukovic@varian.grc.com](mailto:mirko.vukovic@varian.grc.com)

---

---

Subject: Re: reading files with long names on win95 and idl4.0.1  
Posted by [David R. Klassen](#) on Sat, 01 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Mirko Vukovic wrote:

> I am running IDL4.0.1 on windows95. I have a problem of not being able  
> to open (data) files with file names longer than eight characters.

This problem is really more complicated than it first appears as IDL seems

to be able to handle long filenames in \*some\* situations but not all.

In

the various open statements if you give it a filename directly it will not

work unless that name is in the standard 8.3 format. However if you assign the filename to a string variable and then use that variable in your open statement then you can use long filenames. \*However\* you cannot

just use any name. If you put in more than one "." in the name then you cannot put more than three character between any two "."s.

The other problem is when using routines that have names longer than 8 characters. You have to make sure that all routines you use are in files that are in 8.3 format.

RSI claims that v.5 will handle long filenames properly. I haven't tried it yet but I'm looking forward to it!

--

David R. Klassen  
Department of Physics and Astronomy  
University of Wyoming  
Box 3905 University Station  
Laramie WY 82071  
<http://faraday.uwyo.edu/grads/dklassen/>  
[drk@uwyo.edu](mailto:drk@uwyo.edu)

---