

the system prompt) and then re-zip the files, all within a .pro.

I just did this a while ago, I have rather a complicated directory pathname but the FINDFILE command finds all matching files and puts them into a string array. All that you really need to know is the command and SPAWN lines. The SPAWN command unzips the file without affecting it in any way.

There is no need to re-zip it, and it can be write protectd. The data is piped into a unit number which can be read with: readu,lun,dataimage or whatever read command you use. (Check out Esrg-3.2 libraries referenced on the IDL pages, idl-fortran contains some example code.)

>>>> code:

```
file_string = data_path
print,file_string
filename_array=FINDFILE(data_path+wildcard,COUNT=number_of_files)
print,'Information about Matching Files:'
help,filename_array
; Prints out names of data files found
print,'Name of file found:',filename_array
```

```
IF (number_of_files GT 0) THEN BEGIN
FOR i = 0, number_of_files-1 DO BEGIN
```

```
command = 'zcat '+filename_array(i)
SPAWN,command,unit = lun
print,'..Reading output from command ',command
...
dataimage=intarr(pif_c,pif_l)
readu,lun,dataimage
...
free_lun,lun
return
end
```

I hope I didn't forget anything. Good luck!

Rose

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