

Re: Sort files by filename

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Fedora/2007-07/msg05243.html>

- *From:* "Mark Haney" <mhaney@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 31 Jul 2007 15:45:24 -0400
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Mikkel L. Ellertson wrote:

Mark Haney wrote:

With apologies to the 2 Les', the situation isn't like that and I apologize if I've not been clear. The application that I'm working with is running on a server that simply relays the data to all our customers, it doesn't store a copy of the files and then feed them. The NWS weather data requires as close to real-time performance and the 'series of tubes' allows. That said, I'm running another server that runs the same application but is designed to pull the data feed and then store the files locally. I /can/ store the files on the primary server, and I have, but this is a production server that feeds 13MB/hr for each of the 60 or so radar sites it handles 24/7 so I don't like asking it to do more than it does.

So, in essence I'm stuck with these files being dumped on a server via a proprietary method. So I need to sort the files and check for missing ones on the filesystem.

The early suggestions were great and I'm trying each one and tweaking to see if I can make them work with what I have. But any additional bash tips would be helpful as I am pressed for an answer to this issue.

If your data has a fixed file length, cut can separate out the specific bytes you want to sort on. If not, then if there is a specific separator between parts of the name, bot cut and sort can use that to grab the part you want to sort on. What I suspect would work well on for you is to feed the output of ls though sort, and then use a for loop with counter to compare the part you are interested in to check for missing numbers. By doing a compare of the first part of the file name, you can reset the counter for each series of files. Or you can have ls only produce one set of files.

```
count=xx
for i in $(ls <something>* | sort) ; do
file_num=$(cut --delimiter=_ -f1 $i)
while [ $count -lt $file_num ] ; do
```

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```
echo Missing file number $count  
count++  
done  
done
```

This is a very rough script to give you an idea. I can see problems where you get a file name that is in the wrong format, that causes the while loop to go on forever. But if I didn't make too many syntax errors, it should give you a starting point.

Mikkel

This is great. I think now I have enough pieces to make something work. I appreciate all the help.

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Recedite, plebes! Gero rem imperialem!

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