Batch Rename Acoustic Files

Install and Load Necessary Packages

```
install.packages("stringr")
install.packages("stringi")

library(stringr)
library(stringi)
```

Listing the Filenames in the Target Directory

*user input required

```
# Generating a list of filenames from the specified directory
# IMPORTANT: Ensure that your file path ends with a backslash


target_directory <- "C:/Users/Your/File/Path/"
filenames_og <- list.files(target_directory)
```

Option 1: Modifying the Filenames via str_replace()

*user input required

```
# the str_replace() syntax is as follows:
# str_replace(input, "target_string", "replacement_string")

# Example 1:
#   str_replace(filenames_example, "S4U08937_", "GRTS_72916_Site_F_")
#   reads the filenames_example list
#   then replaces any instances of "S4U08937_" with "GRTS_72916_Site_F_".
#   e.g., filename "S4u08937_20230301.wav" would become "GRTS_72916_Site_F_20230301.wav"

# Example 2:
#   str_replace(filenames_example, "_0000_000", "")
#   reads the filenames_example list
#   then replaces any instances of "_0000_000" with blanks
#   effectively removing the target string
#   e.g., filename "Site_F_041348_0000_000.wav" would become "Site_F_041348.wav"

filenames_new <- str_replace(filenames_og, "your_target_string", "your_replacement_string")
```

Option 2: Modifying the Filenames via str_sub()

*user input required

```
# the str_sub() syntax is as follows:
# str_sub(input, starting position, ending position) <- "substitution_string"

# note that this function directly edits the input list

# Example 3:
#   str_sub(filenames_example, 5, 7) <- "bat"
#   reads the filenames_example list
#   then replaces the 5th thru 7th characters of every filename
#   with "bat"
#   e.g., filename "gooddog.wav" would become "goodbat.wav"

# note that the replacement string must be the same length
#   designated by your starting & ending positions
#   e.g., there are three characters between positions 5 and 7
#   and "bat" is also three characters long

str_sub(filenames_og, your_starting_position, your_ending_position) <- "your_substitution_string"
```

Constructing Full Filepaths for Replacement

```
# ONLY PERFORM THE FOLLOWING STEPS WHEN
#   YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH YOUR filenames_new OUTPUT

# Creating a list of the original file paths
#   by combining the target directory
#   with the original filenames.
files_og <- paste0(target_directory, filenames_og)

# Creating a list of replacement file paths
#   by combining the target directory path
#   with the modified filenames
files_new <- paste0(target_directory, filenames_new)
```

Renaming Files in the Directory

```
# ONLY PERFORM THE REMAINING STEPS WHEN
#   YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH YOUR filenames_new OUTPUT
#   THIS STEP WILL PERMANENTLY REPLACE YOUR FILENAMES
#   IN YOUR COMPUTER'S FILE DIRECTORY

# Using file.rename() to update the filenames
#   in your target directory
#   from the original to the newly modified names
file.rename(files_og, files_new)
```

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