NAME

missing_files -- Find missing files in a folder of sequentially numbered files

SYNOPSIS

missing_files -i *input_folder* [**-o** *output_file*]
missing_files -h | -x

DESCRIPTION

Bash_AVpres is a collection of Bash scripts for audio-visual preservation. One of these small programs is **missing_files**, which finds the missing files in a folder of sequentially numbered files.

This script should work correctly with Bash from version 3.2 (released back on 2006-10-11), however we strongly advise using the current version 5.3.9 (released on 2025-12-10).

OPTIONS

BASIC OPTIONS

-i *input_folder*, **--input=***input_folder*

input folder to analyse

The script extracts the regular expressions ("regex") for processing all the files and determines the actual number of the first and the last frame. The naming must follow one of the two formats:

path/to/filename_digits.extension
path/to/digits.extension

where *digits* is the numbering, which must be either alone or at the end of the filename, divided by an underscore from the rest of the filename and by a period from the extension (the filename can contain other underscore signs). The numbering can start at any number and the script verifies if all successive frames are present, from the beginning to the end of the interval.

-o *output_file*, **--output=***output_file*

If there are missing files, then their filenames are written to the output file; otherwise no output file is generated.

If this parameter is not passed, then the script uses

<input_folder>_missing.txt

INFORMATIVE OPTIONS

-h, --help

display a help message

-x, --options
display the advanced options with their default arguments and indicate if a local configuration has been defined or not

USAGE

The possibly generated file can be used, for example, to copy the missing frames from the source folder to the analysed *input_folder* in an automated way:

```
for f in $(cat <input_folder>_missing.txt); do
  cp -v "<source_folder>/${f}" "<input_folder>"
done
```

NOTES

Note that the script verifies the presence of all the sequentially numbered filenames in an interval, but not the content of those files (for this checksums are needed, and their use is highly recommended). For obvious reasons, missing frames at the very beginning or end of the interval cannot be detected.

CONFIGURATION FILE

An external configuration file
${HOME}/.config/AVpres/Bash_AVpres/missing_files.txt

can be defined, allowing the script to import alternate default value for the following option:
output_file

LOG FILES

Temporary log files are stored at
/tmp/AVpres/missing_files.XXXXXXXXXX

The log files can be used for debugging, for example by running **cat** on the address prompted with fatal error messages:

cat /tmp/AVpres/missing_files.*XXXXXXXXXX*

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