

[Modules](#)[Retrieval](#)[Document loaders](#)[File Directory](#)

# File Directory

This covers how to load all documents in a directory.

Under the hood, by default this uses the [UnstructuredLoader](#).

```
from langchain_community.document_loaders
import DirectoryLoader
```

We can use the `glob` parameter to control which files to load. Note that here it doesn't load the `.rst` file or the `.html` files.

```
loader = DirectoryLoader('../',
glob="**/*.md")
```

```
docs = loader.load()
```

```
len(docs)
```

1

## Show a progress bar

By default a progress bar will not be shown. To show a progress bar, install the `tqdm` library (e.g. `pip install tqdm`), and set the `show_progress` parameter to `True`.

```
loader = DirectoryLoader('../',  
glob="**/*.md", show_progress=True)  
docs = loader.load()
```

```
Requirement already satisfied: tqdm in  
/Users/jon/.pyenv/versions/3.9.16/envs/microbio  
app/lib/python3.9/site-packages (4.65.0)
```

```
0it [00:00, ?it/s]
```

## Use multithreading

By default the loading happens in one thread. In order to utilize several threads set the `use_multithreading` flag to true.

```
loader = DirectoryLoader('../',  
glob="**/*.md", use_multithreading=True)  
docs = loader.load()
```

## Change loader class

By default this uses the `UnstructuredLoader` class.

However, you can change up the type of loader pretty easily.

```
from langchain_community.document_loaders  
import TextLoader
```

```
loader = DirectoryLoader('../',  
glob="**/*.md", loader_cls=TextLoader)
```

```
docs = loader.load()
```

```
len(docs)
```

1

If you need to load Python source code files, use the `PythonLoader`.

```
from langchain_community.document_loaders
import PythonLoader
```

```
loader = DirectoryLoader('../.../...',
glob="**/*.py", loader_cls=PythonLoader)
```

```
docs = loader.load()
```

```
len(docs)
```

```
691
```

## Auto-detect file encodings with `TextLoader`

In this example we will see some strategies that can be useful when loading a large list of arbitrary files from a directory using the `TextLoader` class.

First to illustrate the problem, let's try to load multiple texts with arbitrary encodings.

```
path =
'../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/example
loader = DirectoryLoader(path, glob="**/*.txt",
loader_cls=TextLoader)
```

## A. Default Behavior

```
loader.load()
```

```
<pre style="white-space:pre;overflow-x:auto;line
Mono',consolas,'Courier New',monospace"><span s
#800000">└───────────────────────────────────┘ </spa
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color: #bfbf7f">/data/source/langchain/langchai
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<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
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decoration-color: #7f7f7f">26 </span><span style
```

```

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<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
decoration-color: #7f7f7f">27 </span><span style
<span style="color: #0000ff; text-decoration-co
decoration-color: #00ffff">open</span>(<span st
#00ffff">self</span>.file_path, encoding=<span
#00ffff">self</span>.encoding) <span style="col
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decoration-color: #7f7f7f">28 </span><span style
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<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
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color: #800000">}</span>29 <span style="color:
</span>text = f.read()
text-decoration-color: #800000">|</span>
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decoration-color: #7f7f7f">30 </span><span style
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decoration-color: #7f7f7f">31 </span><span style
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decoration-color: #00ffff">self</span>.autodete
style="color: #800000; text-decoration-color: #
<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
decoration-color: #7f7f7f">32 </span><span style
</span>detected_encodings = <span style="color:

```

```

#00ffff">self</span>.detect_file_encodings()
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decoration-color: #00ff00">decode</span>(<span
<span style="color: #00ffff; text-decoration-co
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#800000; text-decoration-color: #800000">|</spa
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<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
decoration-color: #7f7f7f"> 321 </span><span st
</span>data = <span style="color: #00ffff; text
#00ffff; text-decoration-color: #00ffff">input<
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color: #800000">}> </span> 322 <span style="colo
consumed) = <span style="color: #00ffff; text-d
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text-decoration-color: #008080; font-weight: bo

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```

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text-decoration-color: #00ffff">self</span>.sil
style="color: #800000; text-decoration-color: #
<span style="color: #800000; text-decoration-co
decoration-color: #7f7f7f">82 </span><span style
| | </span>logger.warning(e)
decoration-color: #800000">|</span>
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| </span><span style="color: #0000ff; text-de
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| | </span>pbar.update(<span style="color:
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```

color: #00ffff">self</span>.load_hidden:
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color: #800000">}</span>78 <span style="color:
</span>sub_docs = <span style="color: #00ffff;
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decoration-color: #00ffff">self</span>.loader_k
color: #800000">|</span>
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decoration-color: #7f7f7f">79 </span><span style
| </span>docs.extend(sub_docs)
decoration-color: #800000">|</span>
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```

```

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color: #800000">}</span>44 <span style="color:
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color: #0000ff">from</span> <span style="color:
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decoration-color: #7f7f7f">45 </span><span style
</span><span style="color: #0000ff; text-decora
text-decoration-color: #00ffff">Exception</span>
#0000ff">as</span> e:

```



We can pass the parameter `silent_errors` to the `DirectoryLoader` to skip the files which could not be loaded and continue the load process.

```
loader = DirectoryLoader(path,  
glob="**/*.txt", loader_cls=TextLoader,  
silent_errors=True)  
docs = loader.load()
```

```
Error loading  
../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/examples.  
non-utf8.txt
```

```
doc_sources = [doc.metadata['source'] for  
doc in docs]  
doc_sources
```

```
['../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/example  
../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/ex  
utf8.txt']
```

## C. Auto detect encodings



We can also ask `TextLoader` to auto detect the file encoding before failing, by passing the `autodetect_encoding` to the loader class.

```
text_loader_kwargs={'autodetect_encoding':
True}
loader = DirectoryLoader(path,
glob="**/*.txt", loader_cls=TextLoader,
loader_kwargs=text_loader_kwargs)
docs = loader.load()
```

```
doc_sources = [doc.metadata['source'] for
doc in docs]
doc_sources
```

```
['../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/example
utf8.txt',

'../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/example
../../../../../../../../tests/integration_tests/example
utf8.txt']
```