
Subject: Re: reading long files

Posted by [knipp](#) on Mon, 08 Nov 1993 10:51:21 GMT

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In article 9nn@organpipe.uug.arizona.edu, rdc@helium.gas.uug.arizona.edu (richard d clark) writes:

>

> A previous post mentions a two pass method of reading the file first
> determining the necessary size of the array and then reading into it. For
> people running on unix systems spawning a 'wc' will accomplish the first
> pass faster than reading it with idl. Our wc returns # lines, # words, and
> # characters in the file so the array dimensions can be calculated by your

...

> Richard Clark

> rclark@lpl.arizona.edu (or the address in the header)

> For the 10,000th time: it's in Astronomical Algorithms by Jean Meeus!

Another way to count just the number of lines in a file (!UNDER UNIX)
is:

```
awk "END {print NR}" >filename<
```

Use SPAWN and capture the output in a variable.

A more general way is to count the number of carr.returns in the file:

```
CR_BYTE = 10b ; (p.e. for UNIX-Systems)
```

```
OPENR, UNIT, FILENAME, /GET_LUN
```

```
INFO = FSTAT(UNIT)
```

```
I = ASSOC(UNIT, BYTARR(INFO.SIZE))
```

```
POS = WHERE(I(0) EQ CR_BYTE)
```

```
FREE_LUN, UNIT
```

```
NOF_LINES = N_ELEMENTS(POS)
```

Karl

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