Subject: Re: Determining length of a text file?
Posted by kklare on Mon, 20 Sep 2004 22:14:29 GMT

lingfeng.wen@gmail.com (Robin Wen) wrote in message
news:<9cac9f11.0409161530.5e083dae@posting.google.com>...
> pestMay@gmail.com wrote in message
news:<U1P0d.18575$H83.10215@newssvr27.news.prodigy.com>...
>> In IDL v6.1:
>>
>> n_lines = File_lines(filename)
>>
>> does what you need.
>>
>> Ed May
>
> In regard of the old verion of IDL, you can try the 'readf' with loop
> until EOF so that you can obtain the exact the line number.
>
> Robin
It is usually more time efficient to allocate a big text array, read,
ignore the error, and truncate the empty text strings thus avoiding a
FOR loop. Since all null strings point to the same (null) memory (I
think) you only use a small temporary memory. For large table this can
improve speed a lot.