Subject: Re: counting elements in files
Posted by Thomas A. McGlynn on Wed, 24 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

```
Andy Loughe wrote:
> Gideon Z Romm wrote:
>>
>> I have a file with a bunch of numbers stored in it, formatted. It looks
>> something like this:
>>
>> 2555
         3456
                  4567
                         5678
                                        7890
                                 6789
>> 2345 6788 3445 6778
                                 8899
                                        9900
>> ..
>> ..
>> ..
>>
>> I am having trouble finding a procedure that will count the number of
>> elements in this file,
>> Gadi
>
> If the number of columns is fixed, why not use... cat filename | wc -l
> in an IDL spawn command, then multiply that by the number of columns
> you know to be in the file.
>
> Does this help, or am I way out in left field?
>
> Andrew F. Loughe
                                afl@cdc.noaa.gov
If you're going to use wc, you probably just want to use 'wc -w' to
```

If you're going to use wc, you probably just want to use 'wc -w' to count the words directly. Of course if you don't have wc it can be a little more difficult. If the file is fixed format you may be able to do a calculation based upon the size of the file.

Good luck, Tom McGlynn tam@silk.gsfc.nasa.gov