
Subject: Re: ? Number of lines in a file
Posted by [R. Bauer](#) on Mon, 10 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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David Gunter wrote:

```
>  
> I need to know how many lines are in a file so I use:  
>  
>     spawn, "fgrep -cv 'gbrsh' "+filename, n_lines  
>  
> Is there a more efficient way to do this? I've searched the manuals with no  
> luck.  
>  
> BTW, I'm running on a UNIX system for those confused by the above line. ;)  
>
```

It is!

Look at this,

Idl is very fast in processing of arrays. So the idea was to find out how many bytes are in a file then it could be opened and read at once as a bytearr.

After this I count the 10B which indicates the number of lines.

I include my two routines to this mail.

```
; Copyright   R.Bauer 2. Jan. 1996  
; the idea to use fstat instead of spawn ls -l was given by  
; Phil Williams
```

```
function filesize, filename
```

```
if n_params(0) lt 1 then begin  
  help:  print, ' Diese Hilfe kommt mit a=filesize().'  
  print, '  
  print, ' stellt fest wieviele Bytes in einer Datei sind.'  
  print, "  
  print, 'Example'  
  print, "a=filesize('testfile.asc')"  
  print, '----- --'  
  return, -1  
  help_open: print, '(filesize) Das File: ', filename, ' gibt es nicht.'  
  return, -1  
ENDIF
```

```

openr, lun, filename, /get_lun,error=err
if err ne 0 then goto, help_open
stats = fstat(lun)
free_lun, lun

```

```

return, stats.size
end

```

===== cut here =====

```

; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
; Copyright R.Bauer 2. Jan. 1996
;-

```

```

function fileline, filename

```

```

if n_params(0) lt 1 then begin
  help: print, ' Diese Hilfe kommt mit a=fileline().'
  print, ' '
  print, ' stellt fest wieviele Zeilen in einer ASCII Datei sind.'
  print, "
  print, 'Example'
  print, "a=fileline('testfile.asc')"
  print, '----- --'
  return, -1
  help_open: print, '(fileline) Das File: ', filename, ' gibt es nicht.'
  return, -1
ENDIF

```

```

byt=filesize(filename)

```

```

if byt eq -1 then goto, help_open

```

```

lesefeld=bytarr(byt)

```

```

openr,lun,filename,/get_lun,error=err
if err ne 0 then goto, help_open
readu,lun,lesefeld ;lese=string(a)
close,lun

```

```

free_lun,lun
line=where(lesefeld eq 10B,count_line)
;help,count_line

```

```
return,count_line  
END
```

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R.Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@kfa-juelich.de
