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Subject: Re: text file extraction without knowing anything  
Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Wed, 19 Oct 2011 20:13:29 GMT  
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I'd start by looking at the documentation for read\_ascii.pro and see if that will do what you need.

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Subject: Re: text file extraction without knowing anything  
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 19 Oct 2011 20:52:16 GMT  
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On 10/19/11 1:54 PM, kisCA wrote:

> Hi there,  
>  
> I have this file containing text and numbers for a month of  
> measurements I need to extract but the number of lines with the values  
> I need is not regular. So how can I manage to initialize an array I  
> don't know the size ?  
>  
> To describe the pattern:  
>  
> line 1: header with the date I need  
> line 2-5: header with quantity and unit  
> line 6-don't know: values  
> then 26 lines with text  
>  
> Thank you  
>  
> Cheers

The FILE\_LINES routine will tell you the number of total lines in the file, n -- so the number of lines with values should be n - 5 - 26.

Mike

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