

# Push Instructions - Smart Header Detection Fix

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 **Status: COMPLETED AND PUSHED**

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**Branch:** `fix/smart-header-detection`

**Repository:** <https://github.com/CliveCaseley/soldcomp-analyser2>

**Latest Commit:** 1c46246 (Add comprehensive test suite for smart header detection)

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## Summary of Changes

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### Commits Pushed:

1. **c3eec68** - Fix: Implement smart header detection to handle messy CSV files
2. **d8c4b33** - Add comprehensive documentation for smart header detection fix
3. **1c46246** - Add comprehensive test suite for smart header detection

### Files Modified:

- `src/utils/csvParser.js` - Core implementation of smart header detection

### Files Added:

- `SMART_HEADER_DETECTION_SUMMARY.md` - Comprehensive documentation
  - `SMART_HEADER_DETECTION_SUMMARY.pdf` - PDF version of documentation
  - `test-smart-header-detection.js` - Test suite with 100% pass rate
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## What Was Fixed

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### Problem

CSV parser was failing when:

- Row 1 contained TARGET metadata instead of headers
- Headers appeared on row 3 or later
- Files had varying structures with metadata, empty rows, or formatting rows

### Solution

Implemented intelligent header detection that:


-  Scans first 10 rows to find actual header row
  -  Uses fuzzy matching with scoring algorithm
  -  Requires at least 2 core columns (date, address, postcode, price)
  -  Skips metadata rows (TARGET info, empty rows, etc.)
  -  Prevents data loss from rows before headers
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## Test Results





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### Test Suite: `test-smart-header-detection.js`





Total tests: 3  
 Passed: 3   
 Failed: 0  
 Success rate: 100%

### Test Cases:





#### 1. `data (3).csv` - TARGET metadata on row 1

-  Header detected at row 2 (correct)
-  50 data rows parsed
-  All required columns present
-  No data loss

#### 2. `output (22).csv` - Standard format

-  Header detected at row 0 (correct)
-  20 data rows parsed
-  All required columns present
-  Backward compatible

#### 3. `output (23).csv` - Standard format

-  Header detected at row 0 (correct)
  -  20 data rows parsed
  -  All required columns present
  -  Backward compatible
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## How to Create Pull Request

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### Option 1: Using GitHub Web Interface

1. Visit the compare page:

`https://github.com/CliveCaseley/soldcomp-analyser2/compare/master...fix/smart-header-detection`

2. Click **“Create pull request”**

3. Fill in details:

- **Title:** Fix: Implement smart header detection for messy CSV files
- **Description:**  
`...`

This PR implements intelligent header detection for CSV files with varying structures.

`## Changes`

- Smart header row detection (scans first 10 rows)
- Fuzzy matching with scoring algorithm
- Core column requirement (date, address, postcode, price)
- Proper metadata row handling



### ## Test Results

- 3/3 tests passing (100% success rate)
- Tested with files containing TARGET metadata
- Backward compatible with standard CSV files

### ## Documentation

- SMART\_HEADER\_DETECTION\_SUMMARY.md
- test-smart-header-detection.js
- ...

4. Click **“Create pull request”**

## Option 2: Using GitHub CLI (if installed)

```
gh pr create \
  --title "Fix: Implement smart header detection for messy CSV files" \
  --body-file SMART_HEADER_DETECTION_SUMMARY.md \
  --base master \
  --head fix/smart-header-detection
```

## Pull Request URL

**Direct Link:** <https://github.com/CliveCaseley/soldcomp-analyser2/compare/master...fix/smart-header-detection>

## Verification Steps

To verify the fix locally:

```
cd /home/ubuntu/github_repos/soldcomp-analyser2
git checkout fix/smart-header-detection
node test-smart-header-detection.js
```

Expected output: 100% tests passing

## Additional Notes

### Core Algorithm

The header detection uses a scoring system:

$$\text{Row Score} = (\text{Matched Columns}) + (\text{Core Columns} \times 2)$$

Minimum requirements:

- At least 2 core columns matched
- Score threshold for best candidate selection



## Fuzzy Matching

- Exact matches: 100% priority
- Fuzzy matches: 70% threshold
- Uses `fuzzball` library for string similarity

## Backward Compatibility


The fix maintains full backward compatibility:

- Standard CSV files (headers on row 1) still work
- No breaking changes to API
- All existing functionality preserved

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**Implementation Date:** December 4, 2025

**Author:** Clive Caseley

**Branch Status:**  Pushed and ready for PR

**Test Status:**  100% passing