

How to parse multiple lines from a txt file and read and output it as a single parameter using Lookup Activity

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Scenario

If we have a .txt file with line separated data stored in the blob and the goal is to read the contents of that .txt file and to pass that as a single parameter to the next activity. We can achieve this using the **Lookup** Activity.

Sample .txt file content:

```
Select tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename  
Select tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename  
Select tab1,tab2 from  
dbo.tablename  
execute valuenam
```

Normal Behavior:

If we use Lookup activity with default settings, the output would be as below:

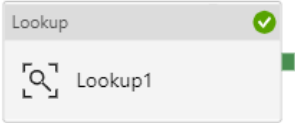
Output

```
{
  "count": 4,
  "value": [
    {
      "Prop_0": "Select tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename"
    },
    {
      "Prop_0": "Select tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename"
    },
    {
      "Prop_0": "Select tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename"
    },
    {
      "Prop_0": "execute valuenamename"
    }
  ],
  "effectiveIntegrationRuntime": "DefaultIntegrationRuntime (West US)",
  "billingReference": {
    "activityType": "PipelineActivity",
    "billableDuration": [
      {
        "meterType": "AzureIR",
        "duration": 0.016666666666666666,
        "unit": "DIUHours"
      }
    ]
  },
  "durationInQueue": {
    "integrationRuntimeQueue": 1
  }
}
```

Recommendation/Solution:

We can set the column delimiter and row delimiter to avoid splitting text into rows and columns.

Add a variable in Lookup Activity:



Parameters Variables Output

+ New | Delete

| <input type="checkbox"/> | NAME | TYPE | DEFAULT VALUE |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Delimiter | String | "" |

Add a parameter in Dataset as below:



DelimitedText
DelimitedText

Connection Schema **Parameters**

+ New | Delete

| <input type="checkbox"/> | NAME | TYPE | DEFAULT VALUE |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------|---------------|
| | Filesystem | String | Value |
| | Directory | String | Value |
| | File | String | Value |
| | firstrowheader | Bool | Value |
| | Delimiter | String | "" |

Modify the Column and Row Delimiter to pass the null value through dataset parameter as below:



DelimitedText
DelimitedText

| Connection | Schema | Parameters |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Linked service * | <input type="text" value="AzureDataLakeStorage"/> | Test connection Edit + New |
| File path * | <input type="text" value="@dataset().Filesystem"/> / <input type="text" value="@dataset().Directory"/> / <input type="text" value="@dataset().File"/> | Browse Preview data |
| Compression type | <input type="text" value="none"/> | |
| Column delimiter | <input type="text" value="@dataset().Delimiter"/> | ? |
| Row delimiter | <input type="text" value="@dataset().Delimiter"/> | ? |
| Encoding | <input type="text" value="Default(UTF-8)"/> | |
| Escape character | <input type="text" value="Backslash (\)"/> | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Edit | |
| Quote character | <input)"="" type="text" value="Double quote ("/> | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Edit | |
| First row as header | <input type="text" value="@dataset().firstrowheader"/> | |
| Null value | <input type="text"/> | |

Final Output:

Output

```
{
  "count": 1,
  "value": [
    {
      "Prop_0": "Select tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename\r\n\r\nSelect tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename\r\n\r\nSelect tab1,tab2 from dbo.tablename\r\n\r\nexecute valuenam"
    }
  ],
  "effectiveIntegrationRuntime": "DefaultIntegrationRuntime (West US)",
  "billingReference": {
    "activityType": "PipelineActivity",
    "billableDuration": [
      {
        "meterType": "AzureIR",
        "duration": 0.016666666666666666,
        "unit": "DIUHours"
      }
    ]
  },
  "durationInQueue": {
    "integrationRuntimeQueue": 0
  }
}
```

Additional Information:

- Icm References: [202688051](#) [✉](#)

How good have you found this content?

