Subject: Re: HDF Data sets containg strings? Posted by davidf on Mon, 02 Nov 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Martin Schultz (mgs@io.harvard.edu) writes:

- > prompts me to adevrtise my str2byte function that may help you getting byte
- > arrays with fixed length from strings with variable length. Please find it
- > attached below.

I can see some applications for Martin's Str2Byte function, but I wanted to remind you of something I learned from Ray Sterner a long time ago: if you have a string array with strings of variable lengths, you can easily turn that into a 2D byte array, in which each string is as long as the longest string in the array by using the BYTE function.

```
a = StrArr(4)
 a[0] = 'hello'
 a[1] = 'my name is coyote'
 a[2] = 'what is yours?'
 a[3] = bye'
 done = Byte(a)
 Help, done
   DONE
                           = Array[17, 4]
                 BYTE
Not only that, but they come back out properly!
 Print, String(done[*,0])
   hello
 Print, StrLen(String(done[*,0]))
   5
Cheers,
David
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```

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/