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Subject: Re: How to convert (concatenate) a string array to a string scalar?

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Tue, 14 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Mike Fitzgibbon wrote:

>

> In article <38CD6DA1.6E45DF18@astro.cornell.edu>,

> J.D. Smith <jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu> wrote:

>> David Fanning wrote:

>>>

>>> Alex Schuster (alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de) writes:

>>>

>>>> BEEEEEP! There's no need for that, here's a function which does what

>>>> Kristian wants:

>>>>

>>>> function strconcat, numarray

>>>> format = string( '(', n\_elements( numarray ), '(I0,', '"',")' )

>>>> str = string( numarray, format=format )

>>>> return, strmid( str, 0, strlen( str ) - 1 )

>>>> end

>>>>

>>>> In the example above, the format string which is created inside the

>>>> function would be '3(I0,",")' , which tells the STRING routine to take

>>>> three integers and add them to the string without leading blanks, but

>>>> with a comma between them. The last strmid call only removes the last

>>>> comma from the string.

>>>

>>> I only know one thing for certain about IDL, and that

>>> is this:

>>>

>>> There is an inverse correlation between how certain

>>> I am that something can only be done one way in IDL

>>> and the number of alternative methods I will learn

>>> about in the next 15 minutes.

>>>

>>> :-(

>>

>> Obfuscated IDL Contest Entry:

>>

>> s=string((reform((tmp=byte(strtrim(a,2)+[replicate(", ",n\_elements(a)-1), "")),\$

>> n\_elements(tmp)))[where(tmp ne 0)])

> Why not just use the format termination code:

>

> s = string(a,format='('+strtrim(n\_elements(a))+'(I0,:","))')

>

> (Coincidentally, I happened to need to do this this morning)

Because it's not nearly obfuscated enough. And Alex already did that one.

JD

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