
Subject: Re: string manipulation

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Mon, 26 Feb 2001 23:34:01 GMT

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Craig Markwardt wrote:

>
> I have been thinking about the following problem, but have been pretty
> frustrated.
>
> I have input keyword/value strings of the following form. People may
> recognize this from a FITS file.
>
> TTYPE2 = 'X1LSpecPcu0' / X1LSpecPcu0 : Histogram
> TUNIT2 = 'count '
> 1CTYP2 = 'CHANNEL '
> 1CPIX2 = '0~4,5:53,(54~135;2),(136~237;3),(238~249;4),250~255'
> 12CD2A = 1.25
> ^name^^ ^value^^^^^^
>
> All of the keyword names have a trailing "2" which indicates that they
> are describing column number 2 in a FITS table. Note that in the name
> "12CD2A", only the *final* 2 refers to the column number.
>
> The interesting question happens when I want to change the column
> number, say from "2" to "50". Is there a straightforward way to do
> this in "vectoral" sort of way?
>
> I am able to find the string positions of the 2's, so that's not
> really a problem. I do this by making a byte array of the strings,
> and blanking out any alphabetic characters and any leading numeric
> characters. Here I appreciate STRPOS is (partially) vectorized.
>
> However, when it comes to resubstituting the "50" back in, that's when
> I get stymied. This is primarily because STRMID and STRPUT are not
> vectorized at all. Well STRMID *is* vectorized, but not with a sane
> behavior. For example, what I'd like to do is:
>
> NEWKEY = STRMID(KEY,0,P1) + '50' + STRMID(KEY,P2,100)
>
> Where KEY, P1, and P2 are vectors. Obviously this doesn't work. Any
> ideas?

I was going to come up with something using histogram, but I figured I'd be pressing my luck. I would probably use a loop and the `sx{add,del,}par.pro` routines from the `nasalib`. FITS has lots of rules about keyword length, total line length, etc. Best to waste some cycles and make sure it's done right.

Good luck,

JD
