Subject: Regular Expressions
Posted by Wayne Landsman on Thu, 15 Mar 2001 22:29:53 GMT

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The following is probably a simple question for anyone familiar with
regular expressions, but I am still trying to learn the STREGEX
function.

Suppose I want to find the first occurence in a string of an 'l' ithat
is not part of a double 'l'.   For
example, in the string

IDL> st = 'The rolling hills and lake'

I want to return the character position of the 'l' in lake (=21).

The following expression almost works -- it will search for any 'l'
which is both preceded and followed by anything that is not   "l"

IDL> print,stregex(st, '[^l]l[^l]')

but it won't work for the string 'The rolling hills and pool' because
the final 'l' has no characters following it.   Any suggestions?

thanks, --Wayne Landsman
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