
Subject: Re: How to eliminate trailing zeros in a string?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 24 Jan 2003 22:56:23 GMT
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David Fanning (david@dfanning.com) writes:

```
> K Banerjee (kbanerjee@ucwphilly.rr.com) writes:
>
>> Say I have the string "20.304000". How can I eliminate the last 3
>> zeros?
>
> Oh, man, this is going to get me banished from the IDL
> Expert Programmers Association, but what about this
> little function:
>
> *****
> ,
> FUNCTION StripZeros, str
>
> IF N_Elements(str) EQ 0 THEN $
>   theString = '20.304000' ELSE $
>   theString = str
>
> char = (Reverse(Byte(theString)))[0]
> IF char NE 48 THEN RETURN, theString ELSE BEGIN
>   WHILE char EQ 48 DO BEGIN
>     theString = StrMid(theString, 0, StrLen(theString)-1)
>     char = (Reverse(Byte(theString)))[0]
>   ENDWHILE
> ENDELSE
> RETURN, theString
> END
> *****
> ,
>
> Run it like this:
>
> IDL> Print, StripZeros('20.304000')
>   20.304
>
> I'm not claiming elegant here, but it took me 3 minutes, tops!
> I'm *sure* I could make it shorter if I had more time. :-)
```

Alright, I've thought about it a little bit. How about this:

```
IDL> str = '20.304000'
IDL> str = String(str, Format='(F6.3)')
IDL> Print, str
  20.304
```

Cheers,

David

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