
Subject: Re: How to eliminate trailing zeros in a string?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 24 Jan 2003 22:42:54 GMT
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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. :-)

Cheers,

David

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