
Subject: Re: Splitting An Array Of Strings Without Using Loops

Posted by [darrick.white](#) on Fri, 25 Jul 2003 13:38:06 GMT

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mchinand@midway.uchicago.edu (Mike Chinander) wrote in message
news:<bT2Ua.33\$Z4.10135@news.uchicago.edu>...

> In article <e5624c04.0307240935.7234e53@posting.google.com>,

> Darrick White <darrick.white@med.ge.com> wrote:

>> This is probably simple, but I'm having a time trying to figure it

>> out. I want to be able to split an array of strings without using

>> loops.

>>

>> Example:

>> dataPoints is an array of strings with N elements

>> The format of each element within dataPoints is "x:y1:y2:y3:yn". More

>> than likely, the data will be in the format of x:y".

>>

>> This array will become data points (the first element is always

>> considered the x coordinate): (x,y) = 1,23. In case of multiple

>> points (2:21:34:54), the data will look like: (2,21), (2,34), (2,54).

>>

>> I need a way to take:

>> dataPoints[0] = 1:23

>> dataPoints[1] = 2:32

>> dataPoints[2] = 3:30

>> dataPoints[3] = 4:45

>>

>>

>> and create

>> points[2,4]

>> 1 23

>> 2 32

>> 3 30

>> 4 45

>>

>> -Darrick

>

> For the simpler case of just 'x:y' pairs the following show work:

>

> IDL> data=['1:23','2:32','3:30','4:45']

>

> put it into one big string

>

> IDL> datajoin=strjoin(data,':')

>

> IDL> print, datajoin

> 1:23:2:32:3:30:4:45

>

```
> Then split it up and reform it into a two by four array
>
> IDL> dataint=reform(fix(strsplit(datajoin,':',/extract)),2,4)
> IDL> print, dataint
>    1    23
>    2    32
>    3    30
>    4    45
>
>
> Hope that helps,
>
> --Mike
```

Thanks for the reply. Yes, that works, and that's what I am doing now. However, there may be cases when the data may look like this:
['1:23','2:32:43','3:30:54','4:45']

In this case, I would like the data formatted into a 3x4 array

```
1  23  NaN
2  32  43
3  30  54
4  45  Nan
```

This is where I'm having a little trouble.

Thanks
-Darrick
