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Subject: Re: converting bytarr into strarr

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Tue, 21 Jun 2005 22:01:54 GMT

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Or adding another dimension:

```
b=string(reform(a,1,20,40))
```

Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

> It's weird that the string function doesn't offer a keyword for this.

> But how about first converting to integer?

>

> b=string(fix(a))

>

> Benjamin

>

>

> Paul Van Delst wrote:

>

>> Hello there,

>>

>> This is probably a simple question, but I haven't found out how to do it.

>>

>> How does one convert a byte array into a equivalent sized string

>> array? E.g. consider the following:

>>

>> IDL> a=bindgen(20,40)

>> IDL> help, a

>> A BYTE = Array[20, 40]

>> IDL> b=string(a)

>> IDL> help, b

>> B STRING = Array[40]

>> IDL>

>>

>> or

>>

>> IDL> a=bindgen(2,4,5,6)

>> IDL> help, a

>> A BYTE = Array[2, 4, 5, 6]

>> IDL> b=string(a)

>> IDL> help, b

>> B STRING = Array[4, 5, 6]

>>

>>

>> What I want to do is convert "a" into a string array, "b", that has

>> the same dimensions as the original byte array, [20, 40], or [2, 4, 5,

>> 6] i.e. each element of "b" is a single character corresponding to the

```
>> byte value in "a".
>>
>> Everything I've read in the IDL help tells me that a byte array will
>> always "lose" the first dimension as the bytes are converted into
>> concatenated strings.
>>
>> Is there a simple way around this? (I could loop over the dimensions
>> of "a" I guess).
>>
>> thanks,
>>
>> paulv
>>
```

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