
Subject: Re: converting bytarr into strarr

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Tue, 21 Jun 2005 21:59:44 GMT

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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
>
