Subject: Re: converting a vector into a string
Posted by Mark Hadfield on Thu, 20 Oct 2005 22:27:48 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

R.G. Stockwell wrote:
> "Francois L." <fleduc@lycos.com> wrote in message
> news:1129837956.424479@news.drenet.dnd.ca...
>> Sorry, I am reposting this message again because the previous one
>> contained many errors in the header...
>>
>> I have a vector A (integers):
>>
>>> A = [1,2,3,4]
>>
>> that I want to convert into a string.
>>
>> If I use the command
>>
>>> B = string(A)
>>
>> then B is a string of four elements.
>>
>> How can I convert A to string in order to have '1234' ? which is not an
>> array of four elements...
>>
>> Well at the end, I want to convert '1234' into the number 1234.
>>
>
>
> IDL> help,long(strcompress(strjoin(string([1,2,3,4])),/rem))
>
> <Expression> LONG = 1234

Cool. I was not aware of STRCOMPRESS. It seems it's been in IDL since the beginning, whereas I've only been using IDL since 1992!

Looking again at the original poster's last sentence, I wonder if conversion to and from strings isn't an unnecessary detour. He is starting with integer array [1,2,3,4] and wants to end up with decimal integer 1234. So perhaps his problem can be interpreted as "convert a vector of integers (all presumably between 0 and 9) to a number on the assumption that the elements of the vector represent the digits of the number in decimal form". If so I suggest

IDL> a = [1,2,3,4]
IDL> help, total(a*10^reverse(lindgen(n_elements(a))), /INTEGER)
<Expression> LONG64 = 1234

--
Mark Hadfield "Kei puwaha te tai nei, Hoea tahi tatou"
m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)