Subject: Re: Code cluttered with 'STRTRIM(variable,2)' ?
Posted by thompson on Thu, 14 Sep 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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Russ Welti <rwelti@chroma.mbt.washington.edu> writes:

> A nit that has plagued me since day 1 in IDL is:

> What is the best way to formulate strings which contain
> variables' values without getting all cluttered up with
> strtrim(variable,2) ??   This really uglifies my code.

> Example:

>> msg=$
>> 'Warning: '+strtrim(n_sizes,2)+' size combinations fitted against '+$
>   strtrim(n_peaks,2)+' peak combinations means '+ $
>   strtrim(n_sizes*n_peaks,2)+' individual curve fits will be done.'
>> print,msg

One way to do it would be to use the STRCOMPRESS function, which converts
multiple spaces in a string to a single space. However, this doesn't really
help in your example because you'd still have to convert the integers to
string. Thus,

    msg=strcompress($
    'Warning: '+string(n_sizes)+' size combinations fitted against '+$
          string(n_peaks)+' peak combinations means '+ $
          string(n_sizes*n_peaks)+' individual curve fits will be done.')
    print,msg

isn't much better.

> I guess possible solutions include defining a 'wrapper' for
> strtrim, like:

> FUNCTION str,s
>   return,strtrim(s,2)
> END

That's basically what I do.

Bill Thompson