
Subject: Re: removing substring from string array
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 02 Apr 2007 21:38:43 GMT
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On Mon, 02 Apr 2007 14:21:42 -0700, rchughes wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> Does anyone know a quick way to remove the same prefix from all
> elements in a string array?
>
> Here is an example:
> start with string_array = ['dog.spot', 'dog.rover', 'dog.lucky']
>
> and get ['spot', 'rover', 'lucky']
>
> The only way I know I can do this is with a FOR loop and the
> STRSPLIT(string_array[i], '.', /EXTRACT) command. I am hoping someone
> could help me out with a much more efficient way if there is one.

For a fixed length string like this, it's easy:

```
print,strmid(string_array,4)
```

But, suppose it's a non-uniform length string:

```
string_array = ['dog.spot','cat.betsy','doggy.rover','parrot.bill','dog.luc ky']  
p=strpos(string_array, '.')  
print,strmid(string_array,1#p+1)
```

Notice that silly use of 1#p. This is to ensure that only 1 sub-string is extracted from each string in the array (try it without the 1# and you'll see what I mean; see STRMID docs).

Or you could even be more general and use a regular expression:

```
string_array = ['dog.spot','cat*betsy','doggy#rover','parrot&bill','dog @lucky']  
p=stregex(string_array,'^.[*#&@]',LENGTH=len)  
print,strmid(string_array,1#len)
```

JD
