
Subject: Re: Regular expression
Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Fri, 04 May 2007 18:13:18 GMT
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On Fri, 4 May 2007, kuyper@wizard.net wrote:

```
> FÖLDY Lajos wrote:
>> On Fri, 4 May 2007, Lasse Clausen wrote:
>>
>>> Hi there,
>>>
>>> why does
>>>
>>> print, stregex('[', '[\'])
>>>
>>> work, i.e. produce 0, whereas
>>>
>>
>> You are searching for \ or [ ==> found.
> ...
>> \ loses its 'escape char' meaning in a bracket expression, and becomes an
>> ordinary character.
>
> In other cases, such as the unix vi command, the regular expression \
> [[^\]]*] matches any string that starts with '[', has an arbitrarily
> long string of characters that are not ']', followed by a ']'
> character. In IDL, however, stregex("ab[23]", "[[^\]]*]") returns -1.
> Is there any simple way to perform a similar search using IDL regular
> expression?
>
```

It's easy, just omit the backslash: `print, stregex("ab[23]", "[[^\]]*")`
If you want to put a `]` in the non-matching list, put it right after the `^`.

regards,
lajos
