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Subject: Re: IDL input files.

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 19 Jun 2007 00:27:00 GMT

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On Jun 18, 4:19 pm, ryans...@gmail.com wrote:

> On Jun 18, 3:23 pm, Paul van Delst <Paul.vanDe...@noaa.gov>

>> On a side note, I initially started using regular expressions with the STRSPLIT function

>> only to discover IDL seems to use a hamstrung version that doesn't understand stuff like

>> \s, \w, \n, etc. For the format you list, e.g.

>

>> Name = {Joe}

>> Department = {CS}

>> Age = {25}

>

>> regexps would be the go (IMO) - although I don't see any mention of how you would capture

>> certain parts of a match and not others (but I didn't look too hard :o)

I'm just catching this at the end, but I think this would be useful for you:

```
IDL> results = stregex(line, '([[:alnum:]]*) = \{([[:alnum:]]*)\}', /  
extract, /subexpr)
```

```
IDL> print, results[0]
```

```
Name = {Joe}
```

```
IDL> print,
```

```
results[1]
```

```
Name
```

```
IDL> print, results[2]
```

```
Joe
```

IDL regular expressions have character classes as well, but a different notation than Perl, i.e. \s is `[[:blank:]]`, \w is `[[:alnum:]]`, etc. See

<http://www.ittvis.com/codebank/search.asp?FID=311>

for a more detailed account.

Mike

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