
Subject: Re: strpos

Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Fri, 09 Nov 2007 13:01:29 GMT

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On Nov 9, 5:24 am, greg.a...@googlemail.com wrote:

```
> I'm cutting up an array of filenames, starting something like this:
>
> p1=strpos(res,'\',/reverse_search)
> p2=strpos(res,'.',p1)
>
> ...and am surprised to get this message:
>
> STRPOS: Expression must be a scalar or 1 element array in this
> context: P1.
>
> I was half-expecting to have to transpose p1, but that it's not
> allowed at all seems an omission to me. Is there any reason for that?
>
```

Hi,

It seems you'll have to treat the position argument as a scalar. That means you'll need to loop through to get p2

```
p2 = STRARR(N_ELEMENTS(res))
for i= 0L, nRes-1 do p2[i] = STRPOS(res[i], '.', p1[i])
```

Bummer, eh? It seems like such a natural for the use of an array to manage the position argument. It is either for a very good reason (which is my bet since string handling is tricky business underneath the hood) or it is because nobody ever thought of it. In either case, the documentation doesn't explicitly state that position should be a scalar, and since the expression can be it is a little misleading.

Cheers,
Ben
