
Subject: Re: sorting the chars in a string
Posted by [elwood](#) on Mon, 11 Feb 2008 15:36:17 GMT
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Excellent!

Thank you!

A minor variation on the below-

what if I want to split a string into a string array in which each element is one character?

I think I can figure out a lengthy way to do it if I first convert the string to byte.

BUT

strjoin will knit a string array back together, but is there a way to use strsplit to rip off each char, one by one and put them into a string array?

Something like the following perhaps;

```
x="abdcf"
```

```
arrayofchars=strsplit(x,'./regex,/extract)
```

-the above doesnt work, it returns an empty string :-(

On Feb 11, 9:02 am, Lasse Clausen <la...@lbnc.de> wrote:

> On 11 Feb, 15:39, elwood <epolo...@uwsp.edu> wrote:

>

>> I've been trying to think of a simple way to alphabetically sort an individual string

>

>> Say I have the string x="abdcf"

>> Is there a way to sort it and return a new string which is in correct

>> alphabetical order,

>> and/or reverse alphabetical order.

>

>> Maybe its obvious, but I havent worked with strings too much in IDL

>> and I cant seem to find

>> a way to do this (strsplit and strexex somehow??)

>

>> Thanks,

>> Elisha

>

> Hi there,

>

> convert the string to an array of bytes, like so

>

```
> test = 'sfbvvaedfvtrgvsdvrnbnyhtfc'
```

```
> tmp = byte(test)
```

>

> This conversion happens according to the ASCII table, if I am not

> mistanken, which connects a number to a character in ascending order,

```
> on my machine a = 97, b = 98 and so on. Then sort that byte array and
> build up the string again.
>
> sort_inds = sort(tmp)
> new_string = string(tmp[sort_inds])
> print, new_string
>
> That works, use REVERSE() if you want the sorting done from z-a.
>
> Cheers
> Lasse Clausen
```
