
Subject: Re: Removing (or replacing) substrings in a string array

Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Wed, 22 Jan 2014 15:19:14 GMT

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I used the following site to learn about regular expressions. It is a bit wordy, but gets the job done.
<http://www.regular-expressions.info/tutorial.html>

```
;Strings
```

```
myStr1 = '.aldfa09741_{}+!=!@#$%^&*('
```

```
myStr2 = 'aldfa09741_{}+!=!@#$%^&*('
```

```
myStr3 = '.aldfa09741_{}+!=!@#$%^&*('
```

```
;Stregex
```

```
regex1 = stregex(myStr1, '^\.?([^\.]*)\.?$', /SUBEXP, /EXTRACT)
```

```
regex2 = stregex(myStr2, '^\.?([^\.]*)\.?$', /SUBEXP, /EXTRACT)
```

```
regex3 = stregex(myStr3, '^\.?([^\.]*)\.?$', /SUBEXP, /EXTRACT)
```

```
;Print
```

```
print, regex1[1]
```

```
print, regex2[1]
```

```
print, regex3[1]
```

'^\.?' -- look for an optional (?) dot (\.) at the beginning of the string (^)

'([^\.]*)' -- look for any character except the dot ([^\.]) any number of times (*) and extract it ()

'\.?\$' -- look for an optional (?) dot (\.) at the end of the string (\$)
