
Subject: mystring.split('.') versus substring(mystring,'./extract)

Posted by [trishb](#) on Mon, 02 Oct 2017 09:49:08 GMT

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Hi everyone,

I have the following string

```
mystring = "MY.NESTED.FILENAME.ARGH"
```

What I want to do is split the string into substrings with the dot as the dividing character. Two methods are available but only one delivers:

This works:

```
IDL> out = strsplit(mystring,'./extract)
IDL> help,out
OUT      STRING   = Array[4]
IDL> print,out
MY NESTED FILENAME ARGH
```

This doesn't:

```
IDL> out = mystring.split('.')
IDL> help,out
OUT      STRING   = Array[24]
IDL> print,out
```

Any clue as to why the second one behaves that way? Note that this only happens with the dot, so I must be missing something fundamental.

Thanks,
F.
