
Subject: Formatting strings to coordinates
Posted by [Simon de Vet](#) on Fri, 19 May 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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The data analysis adventure continues... I have read in the data, and am now working on the various plots.

I have a string array, taken from the text file, of coordinates.
However, they are in the form "43.92°½S", and "176.50°½W".

I would like to be able to take this array of strings and convert it to a numerical array or real latitudes and longitudes, from -90 to 90 and 0 to 360 so that they can eventually be plotted onto a globe.

I've figured out how to use strings to generate numerical values (ie: 'Jan' -> 1, 'Feb' -> 2, etc..), but not how to handle parts of strings to modify the other parts.

Any suggestions? This group has been a major help so far!

Thanks,

Simon

Subject: Re: Formatting string
Posted by [mmeron](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2006 08:39:24 GMT
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In article <1166775977.998673.214070@42g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>, "Erik" <janssen.e@gmail.com> writes:

> Hi everyone,

>

> I have a question about formatting a string in IDL. I have a var-string

> which contains an integer value (like this '12' or '312').

> Unfortunately I need a string with four characters. If the integer

> value isn't four characters long, I want some 0's in front of it (like

> this; '0012' or '0312'). Is there any simple way of doing this, without

> parsing the string?

>

Sure. Assuming your var_string is called var, you get the padded one by

```
newvar = strmid('0000'+var,3,4,/reverse)
```

var can be an array in this expression.

Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,

Subject: Re: Formatting string
Posted by [Erik\[1\]](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2006 08:44:26 GMT
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mme...@cars3.uchicago.edu wrote:
> In article <1166775977.998673.214070@42g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>, "Erik"
<janssen.e@gmail.com> writes:
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>
> var can be an array in this expression.
>
> Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
> meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"

Thanks! It works! Never knew that strmid has such capabilitys. I only
thought it was used for cutting strings.

Have a nice Christmas :P

Subject: Re: Formatting string
Posted by [mmeron](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2006 08:56:31 GMT
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In article <1166777066.340722.90420@a3g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>, "Erik"
<janssen.e@gmail.com> writes:
> mme...@cars3.uchicago.edu wrote:
>> In article <1166775977.998673.214070@42g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>, "Erik"
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>> Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
>> meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"
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>
> Thanks! It works! Never knew that strmid has such capabilities. I only
> thought it was used for cutting strings.
>
Well, in principle yes, but by combining padding and cutting you can
do quite a lot.

> Have a nice Christmas :P
>
Thanks, you too.

Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"

Subject: Re: Formatting string
Posted by [Wox](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2006 09:32:50 GMT
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Never looked at it that way :-). I always do padding like this:

```
IDL> var='312'  
IDL> print,string(var,format='(I04)')  
0312
```

On Fri, 22 Dec 2006 08:39:24 GMT, mmeron@cars3.uchicago.edu wrote:

```
> newvar = strmid('0000'+var,3,4,/reverse)
```

Subject: Re: Formatting string
Posted by [mmeron](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2006 09:58:20 GMT
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In article <cc9no2dh8nn363kh6jnac5roul71ggg835@4ax.com>, Wox <nomail@hotmail.com> writes:

> Never looked at it that way :-). I always do padding like this:

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> IDL> var='312'

> IDL> print,string(var,format='(I04)')

> 0312

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> On Fri, 22 Dec 2006 08:39:24 GMT, mmeron@cars3.uchicago.edu wrote:

>

>> newvar = strmid('0000'+var,3,4,/reverse)

>

There is always more than one way to skin a cat:-)

Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"

Subject: Re: Formatting string
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2006 14:43:27 GMT
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Mati Meron writes:

> There is always more than one way to skin a cat:-)

Indeed. I always do this like this:

```
IDL> var = 312
```

```
IDL> Print, String(var, Format='(I4.4)')
```

```
0312
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
