
Subject: STRING() confusion

Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Wed, 12 May 2004 09:41:56 GMT

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Hi,

So I was running out of screen real estate, I made my IDL command line xterm smaller, and caused a 'feature' of STRING to appear. E.g. If the xterm is 55 characters wide

```
s="abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"
```

```
help, string(s,s)
```

```
<Expression>  STRING  = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzabcdefghijklmnopqrs'...
```

```
;the string <54 characters
```

```
help, string(s,s,"ab")
```

```
<Expression>  STRING  = Array[2]
```

```
;the string >=54 characters
```

```
print, string(s,s,"ab")
```

```
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
```

```
ab
```

Does anybody know why this might happen? The same happens in the idlde, where the number of characters used is the terminal size when the idlde is launched. (Redhat 7.3, I think).

Chris.
