
Subject: Re: String Processing Question
Posted by [Sobwom](#) on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 21:47:40 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,
>
> My mind goes into shutdown mode whenever the subject of
> string processing comes up. It always has, I don't know
> why.
>
> I have a method of doing this, but it looks like
> a crock. Here is the situation.
>
> I have a variable:
>
> animal = 'Coyote'
>
> And I have a string:
>
> myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}'.
>
> I want to replace "{1}" with "Coyote". What is the
> best way to do that, given that "{1}" can occur
> anywhere in the string?
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Try StrSplit():
animal = 'Coyote'
myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}.'
newString = StrJoin(StrSplit(myString, '\{1\}', /Regex, /Extract, \$
 /Preserve_Null), animal)

Subject: Re: String Processing Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 22:14:57 GMT
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Sobwom writes:

> Try StrSplit():

```
> animal = 'Coyote'
> myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}.'
> newString = StrJoin(StrSplit(myString, '{1}', /Regex, /Extract, $
>                               /Preserve_Null), animal)
```

Now **that's** what I'm talkin' about! :-)

That whole "regular expression" business always makes my eyes glaze over. I think because everyone who explains it relies on the same UNIX man page. :-(

Now I see how powerful it is. Really nice. My code is back to being elegant again! Thanks a lot.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Subject: Re: String Processing Question

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 00:07:47 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

```
> Sobwom writes:
>
>
>> Try StrSplit():
>> animal = 'Coyote'
>> myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}.'
>> newString = StrJoin(StrSplit(myString, '{1}', /Regex, /Extract, $
>>                               /Preserve_Null), animal)
>
>
> Now *that's* what I'm talkin' about! :-)
>
> That whole "regular expression" business always makes
> my eyes glaze over. I think because everyone who explains
> it relies on the same UNIX man page. :-(
```

Have a look at <http://www.rsinc.com/codebank/search.asp?FID=311>. No need for man pages, and it comes with a `str_replace` function.

Benjamin

Subject: Re: String Processing Question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 00:15:18 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger writes:

> Have a look at <http://www.rsinc.com/codebank/search.asp?FID=311>. No need
> for man pages, and it comes with a str_replace function.

Now there you go! (I'm not sure why the same article is in the PDF file twice, unless you have to read the material **at least** twice to get it, but if so, it's a thoughtful addition.) I've already set it beside my pillow for some bedtime reading tonight. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: String Processing Question
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 01:58:11 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger <benjamin.hornberger@stonybrook.edu> writes:

> David Fanning wrote:
>> Sobwom writes:
>>
>>> Try StrSplit():
>>> animal = 'Coyote'
>>> myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}.'
>>> newString = StrJoin(StrSplit(myString, '{1}', /Regex, /Extract, \$
>>> /Preserve_Null), animal)
>> Now **that's** what I'm talkin' about! :-)
>> That whole "regular expression" business always makes
>> my eyes glaze over. I think because everyone who explains
>> it relies on the same UNIX man page. :-(
>
> Have a look at <http://www.rsinc.com/codebank/search.asp?FID=311>. No
> need for man pages, and it comes with a str_replace function.

...and the IDL Astronomy Library has the REPSTR() function.

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: String Processing Question
Posted by [Norbert Hahn](#) on Fri, 04 Mar 2005 16:32:58 GMT
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"Sobwom" <sobwom_joatamon@yahoo.com> wrote:

```
>> I have a variable:
>>
>>  animal = 'Coyote'
>>
>> And I have a string:
>>
>>  myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}'.
>>

> Try StrSplit():
> animal = 'Coyote'
> myString = 'My favorite animal is {1}.'
> newString = StrJoin(StrSplit(myString, '{1}', /Regex, /Extract, $
>                      /Preserve_Null), animal)
```

Why is there a need to use /Regex and thusly quoting the braces?

Wouldn't

```
StrJoin(StrSplit(myString, '{1}', /Extract, /Preserve_Null), animal)
```

be sufficient?

Norbert
