
Subject: Re: Determining a safe variable name from a string
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 18:15:58 GMT
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Ben Panter writes:

> I'm sure I've seen this here before, but extensive googling didn't
> trawl anything up. I'd like to be able to convert a random string into
> something I can use for a variable name (heavy execute'ing going on
> here). Something that clears out all the ./*/&/'s and the like. Ideally
> it would replace them with something useful, realistically I'd be happy
> if it just removed the unsafe characters from the string.
>
> something like:
>
> res=wonderful_routine('vmax_z0.1_0.3')
> print, res
> vmax_z0p1_0p3
>
> I've already written something similar which I can butcher, but I'm
> sure there was an IDL routine that did this already?

I think you must be talking about that wonderful (nee miraculous)
function Stregex. Combined with StrSplit and StrJoin, fabulous
things can be done in a single line!

http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/stringsubs.html

Cheers,

David

P.S. Have you moved back to Edinburgh? Is your apartment
big enough for a visitor? :-)

--

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.")

Subject: Re: Determining a safe variable name from a string
Posted by news.verizon.net on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 19:19:18 GMT
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Ben Panter wrote:

- > I've already written something similar which I can butcher, but I'm
- > sure there was an IDL routine that did this already?

Check out the IDL_VALIDNAME function with the /CONVERT_ALL option.
--Wayne

Subject: Re: Determining a safe variable name from a string
Posted by [Ben Panter](#) on Wed, 01 Nov 2006 08:00:15 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

- > I think you must be talking about that wonderful (nee miraculous)
- > function Stregex. Combined with StrSplit and StrJoin, fabulous
- > things can be done in a single line!

Cheers David - it was the one that Wayne points to that I was after but I agree regexp's are incredibly useful, if you can only remember the syntax...

- > P.S. Have you moved back to Edinburgh? Is your apartment
- > big enough for a visitor? :-)

Yes, and certainly! I'm still an astronomer, but I'm also working in a collaboration looking at medical imaging too. I'm finding it very odd dealing with images where the subject is close enough to ask to move round a bit, you just don't get that co-operation from galaxies...

Ben

--

Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.
Email false, <http://www.benpanter.co.uk>
or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Subject: Re: Determining a safe variable name from a string
Posted by [Ben Panter](#) on Wed, 01 Nov 2006 08:00:40 GMT
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Wayne Landsman wrote:

- > Ben Panter wrote:
- >
- >> I've already written something similar which I can butcher, but I'm
- >> sure there was an IDL routine that did this already?
- >

> Check out the IDL_VALIDNAME function with the /CONVERT_ALL option.
> --Wayne
>

Thanks Wayne - that's the one.

--

Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.
Email false, <http://www.benpanter.co.uk>
or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
