
Subject: quick strsplit question

Posted by [rlayberry](#) on Thu, 06 Mar 2008 09:47:34 GMT

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Hi

I am, trying to split an number of terms such as str9=dg_eyemouth.out

to take off the file extension

```
print,strsplit(str9,'.out',/extract,/regex)
```

but this gives

dg_eye h

any ideas

thanks

russ

Subject: Re: quick strsplit question

Posted by [Spon](#) on Thu, 06 Mar 2008 10:07:42 GMT

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On Mar 6, 9:47 am, rlaybe...@hotmail.com wrote:

> Hi

>

> I am, trying to split an number of terms such as str9=dg_eyemouth.out

>

> to take off the file extension

>

> print,strsplit(str9,'.out',/extract,/regex)

>

> but this gives

>

> dg_eye h

>

> any ideas

>

> thanks

>

> russ

You want:

```
print,strsplit(str9,'\\.out',/extract,/regex)
```

The '.' is a special character in regular expressions in IDL and needs an escape character before it if you mean an actualy '.' in a string. See the helpfile entitled 'Learning About Regular Expressions'.

Regards,
Chris

Subject: Re: quick strsplit question
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 06 Mar 2008 10:25:50 GMT
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rlayberry@hotmail.com wrote:

```
> Hi
>
> I am, trying to split an number of terms such as str9=dg_eyemouth.out
>
> to take off the file extension
>
> print,strsplit(str9,'.out',/extract,/regex)
>
> but this gives
>
> dg_eye h
>
> any ideas
>
> thanks
>
> russ
```

You've specified /regex. The character "." is a special character in a regex which matches anything. So ".out" will match "mout".

You can remove the special nature of "." by preceding it with a backslash. You should probably also tie the match to the end of the string by appending a dollar:

```
print,strsplit(str9,'\.out$',/extract,/regex).
```

A better approach might be to use the function file_basename:

```
print,file_basename(str9,['.out'])
```

--

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Subject: Re: quick strsplit question
Posted by [rlayberry](#) on Fri, 07 Mar 2008 13:56:13 GMT
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On 6 Mar, 10:25, Nigel Wade <n...@ion.le.ac.uk> wrote:

> rlaybe...@hotmail.com wrote:

>> Hi

>

>> I am, trying to split an number of terms such as str9=dg_eyemouth.out

>

>> to take off the file extension

>

>> print,strsplit(str9,'.out',/extract,/regex)

>

>> but this gives

>

>> dg_eye h

>

>> any ideas

>

>> thanks

>

>> russ

>

> You've specified /regex. The character "." is a special character in a regex

> which matches anything. So ".out" will match "mout".

>

> You can remove the special nature of "." by preceding it with a backslash. You

> should probably also tie the match to the end of the string by appending a

> dollar:

> print,strsplit(str9,'\\.out\$',/extract,/regex).

>

> A better approach might be to use the function file_basename:

>

> print,file_basename(str9,['.out'])

>

great, thanks both of the above
