Subject: Re: stregex question

Posted by Michael Galloy on Tue, 21 Jul 2009 16:53:03 GMT

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wlandsman wrote:

- > I'd like to find the first "e" in a string that is not next to
- > another "e"
- >
- > The solution
- > stregex(s,"e[^e]|\$") ;"e" followed by not "e" or at the end of the
- > line
- > doesn't work for the string st = 'see me' because it will find the
- > second "e" in "see"

>

- > The soluton
- > stregex(s,"e{1}") ;Find one occurrence of "e"
- > also finds the first "e" in "see" (Two occurrences is also one
- > occurrence)

>

- > In Perl it seems that one would use the "lookahead" option, but that
- > doesn't seem to be available in stregex().

>

- > (Actually I am looking for the first quote that is not part of a
- > double quote, but I wanted to keep the example syntax simple.)
- > Thanks, --Wayne

I would do something like:

```
IDL> pos = stregex(s, '([^e]e[^e])|(^e[^e])|(^e)|([^e]e$)')
IDL> pos += strmid(s, pos, 1) ne 'e'
```

You have to add one to pos if either the [^e]e[^e] or [^e]e\$ forms matched.

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com Associate Research Scientist Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: stregex question

Posted by wlandsman on Tue, 21 Jul 2009 17:58:39 GMT

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Mike,

```
> IDL> pos = stregex(s, '([^e]e[^e])|(^e[^e])|(^e$)|([^e]e$)')
> IDL> pos += strmid(s, pos, 1) ne 'e'
```

Thanks for the quick reply. For my own reference when I go back to google this answer, the above code is testing 4 possibilities

```
    [^e]e[^e] - "e" surrounded by non-"e"
    (^e[^e]) - "e" at beginning of string followed by non-"e"
    (^e$) - Single character string with value "e"
    ([^e]e$) - - "e" at the end of the string preceded by a non-"e"
```

In the first and last case (testing a preceding character) one needs to add 1 to the position found. --Wayne

Subject: Re: stregex question
Posted by JDS on Wed, 22 Jul 2009 00:19:58 GMT
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```
On Jul 21, 12:53 pm, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> wlandsman wrote:
>> I'd like to find the first "e" in a string that is not next to
>> another "e"
>
>> The solution
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>> Thanks, --Wayne
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> I would do something like:
> IDL> pos = stregex(s, '([^e]e[^e])|(^e[^e])|(^e$)|([^e]e$)')
> IDL> pos += strmid(s, pos, 1) ne 'e'
```

> You have to add one to pos if either the [^e]e[^e] or [^e]e\$ forms matched.

Or, somewhat simpler, and a little easier to maintain:

 $IDL> pos = (stregex('see me', '([^e]|^)(e)([^e]|^s)', /SUB))[2]$