Subject: Code cluttered with 'STRTRIM(variable,2)' ? Posted by Russ Welti on Wed, 13 Sep 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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A nit that has plagued me since day 1 in IDL is:

What is the best way to formulate strings which contain variables' values without getting all cluttered up with strtrim(variable,2) ?? This really uglifies my code.

Example:

- > msg=\$
- > 'Warning: '+strtrim(n_sizes,2)+' size combinations fitted against '+\$ strtrim(n_peaks,2)+' peak combinations means '+\$ strtrim(n_sizes*n_peaks,2)+' individual curve fits will be done.'
- > print,msg

I have played with PRINT, STRING (FORMAT='(. . .)', < stuff>)

but that is not really very nice to look at either and is a pain to maintain the format spec if the output changes slightly.

I guess possible solutions include defining a 'wrapper' for strtrim, like:

FUNCTION str,s return,strtrim(s,2) END

Any thoughts? Am I missing an easy way?

I think the default, for a function called stringTRIM, should be to trim both ends, so at least I would not need to pass that pesky 2. ;)

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