
Subject: stregex fails to match underscore

Posted by [PMan](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2014 20:12:46 GMT

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I am trying to use stregex to match a filename. I am curious why, after the '([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC])' portion of my search string, the first '_' does not match.

For example:

```
name = 'GDP1_XXX__KGD_RF.xml'
searchStr = '^G[DS]P1_XXX__([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC])'
print, stregex(name, searchStr, /boolean) ; Match
```

```
searchStr = '^G[DS]P1_XXX__([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC])_'
print, stregex(name, searchStr, /boolean) ; Not Match
```

Not sure why this happens. Anyone have any ideas?

Thanks.

Subject: Re: stregex fails to match underscore

Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2014 20:23:32 GMT

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On Monday, March 31, 2014 10:12:46 PM UTC+2, Paul Mallas wrote:

```
> I am trying to use stregex to match a filename. I am curious why, after the
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> '([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC])' portion of my search string, the first '_' does not match.
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>
> searchStr = '^G[DS]P1_XXX__([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC])_'
> print, stregex(name, searchStr, /boolean) ; Not Match
>
> Not sure why this happens. Anyone have any ideas?
```

([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC]) matches a single character. Omit the brackets:

```
searchStr = '^G[DS]P1_XXX__(LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC)_'
```

regards,
Lajos

Subject: Re: stregex fails to match underscore
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2014 20:26:23 GMT
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On 3/31/14, 2:12 PM, Paul Mallas wrote:

```
> I am trying to use stregex to match a filename. I am curious why, after the
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> print, stregex(name, searchStr, /boolean) ; Not Match
>
> Not sure why this happens. Anyone have any ideas?
>
> Thanks.
>
```

You want just alternation (parens), no character classes (square brackets) in the LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC choice:

```
IDL> searchStr = '^G[DS]P1_XXX__(LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC)_'
IDL> print, stregex(name, searchStr, /boolean) ; Not Match
1
```

Mike

--

Michael Galloy
www.michaelgalloy.com
Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)
Research Mathematician
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: stregex fails to match underscore
Posted by [PMan](#) on Mon, 31 Mar 2014 20:34:50 GMT
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On Monday, March 31, 2014 4:26:23 PM UTC-4, Mike Galloy wrote:

```
> On 3/31/14, 2:12 PM, Paul Mallas wrote:
>
>> I am trying to use stregex to match a filename. I am curious why, after the
>
>> '([LLC|KGD|GFC|FFC])' portion of my search string, the first '_' does not match.
```

```

>
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>
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>
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>
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>
> IDL> print, stregex(name, searchStr, /boolean) ; Not Match
>
> 1
>
>
>
> Mike
>
> --

```

>
> Michael Galloy
>
> www.michaelgalloy.com
>
> Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)
>
> Research Mathematician
>
> Tech-X Corporation

Ah, yes. Works fine that way. From the documentation I was expecting to dump the () and keep the [], but it's the other way around.

Thanks to you both.
