**strlen() — Length of string in bytes**

**Description**

`strlen(s)` returns the length of—the number of bytes contained in—the string `s`.

When `s` is not a scalar, `strlen()` returns element-by-element results.

**Syntax**

```plaintext
real matrix strlen(string matrix s)
```

**Remarks and examples**

Stata understands `length()` as a synonym for its `strlen()` function. Do not, however, use `length()` in Mata when you mean `strlen()`. Mata’s `length()` function returns the length (number of elements) of a vector.

Use `ustrlen()` to obtain the length of a string in Unicode characters. Use `udstrlen()` to obtain the length of a string in display columns.

**Conformability**

`strlen(s):

```plaintext
s: r × c
result: r × c
```

**Diagnostics**

`strlen(s)`, when `s` is a binary string (a string containing binary 0), returns the overall length of the string, not the location of the binary 0. Use `strpos(s, char(0))` if you want the location of the binary 0; see [M-5] `strpos()`.

**Also see**

[M-5] `fmtwidth()` — Width of %fmt
[M-5] `strpos()` — Find substring in string
[M-5] `udstrlen()` — Length of Unicode string in display columns
[M-5] `ustrlen()` — Length of Unicode string in Unicode characters
[M-4] `String` — String manipulation functions