

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

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## 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

*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)`:  
*s*:  $r \times c$   
*result*:  $r \times c$

## 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

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