

## [8.7] Replacement for `mid()` and `right()` functions use position instead of count

The built-in `mid()` function has the syntax `mid(string, start [,count])` when used with a string argument. `count` characters are returned from `string`, beginning at character `start`. Sometimes it is more convenient to extract characters from a `start` position to an `end` position, instead of a number of characters. It is trivial to find

```
count = end - start + 1
```

but it may be useful to define it as a function:

```
mid1(s,n,m)
Func
@(s,n,m) return elements from n to m of s
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mid(s,n,m-n+1)

EndFunc
```

For example, `mid1("abcdefghi",3,7)` returns "cdefg".

The built-in `mid()` function also operates on lists, and so does `mid1()`, since it calls `mid()`. For this reason, the default behavior of `mid1()` is the same as `mid()`.

We can also write a similar replacement function for `right()` which uses a position for the argument, instead of the number of elements:

```
right1(s,p)
Func
@(s,p) return right elements from p of s
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right(s,dim(s)-p+1)

EndFunc
```

For example, `right1("123456789",7)` returns "789".

We don't need a replacement function for `left()`, because the number of elements used as the argument in that function *is* the position in the string.