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Subject: Re: byte/unicode mismatch

Posted by [Allan Whiteford](#) on Fri, 21 Nov 2008 10:04:36 GMT

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Heinz Stege wrote:

> On Thu, 20 Nov 2008 09:23:52 -0800 (PST), mgalloy@gmail.com wrote:

>

>

>> On Nov 20, 3:19 am, Reimar Bauer <R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:

>>

>>> Hi

>>>

>>> the ascii table is gone.

>>>

>>> IDL> print,byte('ï¿½')

>>> 195 188

>>>

> The string entered in the workbench command line is encoded in UTF8.

Picking up on this point (and the one made by Mike) - it's mostly to do with your editor. The workbench seems to be unicode aware so it really is passing a two byte representation of ï¿½ into the interpreter.

If I use the simple command line interface running through an xterm (X.Org 6.8.99.903) which I guess isn't unicode aware then I get 252 with the same version of IDL:

```
IDL> print,!version
```

```
{ x86 linux unix linux 7.0 Oct 25 2007    32    64}
```

```
IDL> print,byte('ï¿½')
```

```
252
```

but with the workbench:

```
IDL> print,!version
```

```
{ x86 linux unix linux 7.0 Oct 25 2007    32    64}
```

```
IDL> print,byte('ï¿½')
```

```
195 188
```

I would expect that if you read the character from a file (either as data or in a .pro file) it depends on the program which wrote the file and whether your editor was unicode-aware.

In saying all this, I don't understand unicode properly (does anyone?!?) - I'm just reporting on the fact that it isn't just the IDL interpreter which is the issue, it's to do with the editor which sends the character to the interpreter.

This has already been said - I've just rephrased it using more (unnecessary?) words. I hope it's helpful.

Thanks,

Allan

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