
Subject: quoted null character

Posted by [George McCabe](#) on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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<!doctype html public "-//w3c//dtd html 4.0 transitional//en">

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hello,

<p>i had one hell of a time today figuring out some unexpected results in IDL string processing, and i wonder if any one has encountered similar problems.

<p>take the following code segment -

<p>IDL> ; the variable 'F' is string type result from another procedure

IDL> cmd = 'perl -e '+''''+'\$_ = '+''''+'F'+''''+' ; print if (m/AC[0-9]{13}.L0/)'+''''

IDL> print, cmd

IDL> spawn,cmd,res

IDL> print, res

<p>what is executed by the unix shell is -

perl -e '\$_ = "<string>" ; print if (m/AC[0-9]{13}.L0/)'

<p>except, when...

<p>in case when the string in variable 'F' ends in a null character. then one gets an incomplete concatenation beyond the null. since i'd already spent an hour or so rearranging quote marks and parting up the process to find the problem, i didn't spend time after discovering the cause to figure out if IDL was interpreting the null as a quote or other weird possibilities.

<p>anyone?

<p>Thank you, George

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