
Subject: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?

Posted by [Olaf Stetzer](#) on Thu, 13 Sep 2001 16:44:56 GMT

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Hello,

as mentioned in my last posting I want to convert Date/Time from Microsoft(Excel)-Format (based on 1.1.1900= day 1) into Julian Seconds and then from JS into the ODBC-SQL-TIMESTAMP-struct.

For the last conversion I've written a function which basically runs js2ymds to get the values for y m d and then computes hh mm ss from the resulting seconds.

All values are then stored in the aforementioned struct.

I now tried to compute the js from MS-Format and then use my function to store this in the sqlstruct:

```
function mstime2sqlts, msdate, mstime
```

```
jsdate=(msdate-1)*86400d0-3155673600d0
```

```
js=mstime*86400d0+jsdate
```

```
sqlts=js2sqlts(js)
```

```
return, sqlts
```

```
end
```

However I realised that the dates which result from my computation differ from the ones that I get when I just change the format setting in Excel!

Some Examples:

```
msdate msdate (formatted) js2ymds
```

```
1 1900 1 1 1900 1 1
```

```
366 1900 12 31 1901 1 1
```

```
12481 1934 3 3 1934 3 4
```

```
36682 2000 6 5 2000 6 6
```

It seems that in the MS-year 1900 has 1 more day compared to the one calculated by js2ymds!! I don't know if the fault is in Microsoft Excel or in the function js2ymds but maybe in 1900 there was an extra switching day (german: Schalttag) which is

not calculated in the function?

Greetings,

Olaf

--

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Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?
Posted by [Harald Giese](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 00:09:46 GMT
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Olaf Stetzer wrote:

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> It seems that in the MS-year 1900 has 1 more day
> compared to the one calculated by js2ymds!! I don't
> know if the fault is in Microsoft Excel or in the
> function js2ymds but maybe in 1900 there was an
> extra switching day (german: Schalttag) which is
> not calculated in the function?

Hi Olaf,

MS-Excel has indeed two peculiarities (at least):

1. it counts the 01.01.1900 00:00 as Julian day 1.0 (where most of us would expect 0.0)
2. it has a "29.02.1900" - though 1900 was definitely not a leap year

Happy coding!

Regards,
Harald

Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?
Posted by [Olaf Stetzer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 07:06:44 GMT
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Harald Giese schrieb:

>
> Olaf Stetzer wrote:
>> ...
>> It seems that in the MS-year 1900 has 1 more day
>> compared to the one calculated by js2ymds!! I don't
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> Hi Olaf,
>
> MS-Excel has indeed two peculiarities (at least):
>
> 1. it counts the 01.01.1900 00:00 as Julian day 1.0 (where most of us
> would expect 0.0)
> 2. it has a "29.02.1900" - though 1900 was definitely not a leap year

ROTFL !!!!! I first thought about this possibility but did not believe that MS can make such a silly mistake!!!! But in the end it just supports my image of this \$\$ company.... Do they know about this and what is their official reaction? Let me guess.... They try to redefine the calendar so their calculations are correct (you know the joke about MS-engineers trying to repair a broken light bulb?)

.
. .
. .

MS redefined darkness as new standard!!!

Greetings,

Olaf

--

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Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 07:34:50 GMT
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Harald Giese wrote:

>
> Olaf Stetzer wrote:
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>> know if the fault is in Microsoft Excel or in the
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> Hi Olaf,
>
> MS-Excel has indeed two peculiarities (at least):
>
> 1. it counts the 01.01.1900 00:00 as Julian day 1.0 (where most of us
> would expect 0.0)
> 2. it has a "29.02.1900" - though 1900 was definitely not a leap year
>
> Happy coding!
>
> Regards,
> Harald

I have seen this problems by storing data with labview too. It seems to me that it comes from the Microft Windows.

I haven't tried to program a fix around this, because our exchange format from Labview to IDL is an ASCII file format named ENZ.

In this file format we are able to set a start date then only seconds of day have to be stored. Later on the read_enz() routine translates the date seconds information correctly in julian seconds. Result is the ICG data structure.

Some more words about ENZ.

Normally data is a bit more as only values.

You like to know the units, the long name (for printouts), the missing value,

the short name of the data probably a scaling factor or an offset as well as who did the experiment and why and where and which resources are used and some more.

Our data is always described in the data files.

This information is defined as GLOBAL comments and PARAMETER comments.

HDF, netCDF handles this information the same way.
ENZ is specially for vector data and we are using it for Experiments if we like or need ASCII data for exchange.

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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=====
a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>
=====

read something about linux / windows
<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 08:58:23 GMT
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Olaf Stetzer wrote:

>
> Hello,
>
> as mentioned in my last posting I want to convert
> Date/Time from Microsoft(Excel)-Format (based on
> 1.1.1900= day 1) into Julian Seconds and then from JS
> into the ODBC-SQL-TIMESTAMP-struct.
>
> For the last conversion I've written a function
> which basically runs js2ymds to get the values
> for y m d and then computes hh mm ss from the
> resulting seconds.
>
> All values are then stored in the aforementioned struct.
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```
> I now tried to compute the js from MS-Format and then
> use my function to store this in the sqlstruct:
> ---
> function mstime2sqlts, msdate, mstime
>
> jsdate=(msdate-1)*86400d0-3155673600d0
> js=mstime*86400d0+jsdate
> sqlts=js2sqlts(js)
> return, sqlts
>
> end
> ---
```

Dear Olaf,

We are calculating the jstime from Microsoft special time in this way

```
js_time= mstime*24d*3600+xls2js(msdates)
```

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/xls2js.tar.gz

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

=====

a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

=====

read something about linux / windows

<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?

Posted by [Olaf Stetzer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 09:10:04 GMT

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Reimar Bauer schrieb:

>
>
> Dear Olaf,
>
> We are calculating the jstime from Microsoft special time in this way
>
> js_time= mstime*24d*3600+xls2js(msdates)
>

Hello Reimar,

I just changed my code to:

```
function mstime2sqlts, msdatetime  
return, js2sqlts((msdatetime-36526d0)*86400d0)  
end
```

assuming that msdatetime is the result of mstime+mdate.
36526 is the MS-date for 1.1.2000! I know that
this shifts the problem only to dates prior to 1.3.1900 but for the
moment thats OK. I will have a look at your suggestion soon!

Olaf

--

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Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?

Posted by [Olaf Stetzer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 09:18:40 GMT

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Reimar Bauer schrieb:

>
> Olaf Stetzer wrote:
>>
>> Hello,
>>
>> as mentioned in my last posting I want to convert

```
>> Date/Time from Microsoft(Excel)-Format (based on
>> 1.1.1900= day 1) into Julian Seconds and then from JS
>> into the ODBC-SQL-TIMESTAMP-struct.
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>> For the last conversion I've written a function
>> which basically runs js2ymds to get the values
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>> resulting seconds.
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>> All values are then stored in the aforementioned struct.
>>
>> I now tried to compute the js from MS-Format and then
>> use my function to store this in the sqlstruct:
>> ---
>> function mstime2sqlts, msdate, mstime
>>
>> jsdate=(msdate-1)*86400d0-3155673600d0
>> js=mstime*86400d0+jsdate
>> sqlts=js2sqlts(js)
>> return, sqlts
>>
>> end
>> ---
>
> Dear Olaf,
>
> We are calculating the jstime from Microsoft special time in this way
>
> js_time= mstime*24d*3600+xls2js(msdates)
>
```

Are you sure that this function is aware of the 29.2.1900-bug in ms-date? By looking at the code for xls2js I am not sure about this!

Olaf

--
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Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?
Posted by [Olaf Stetzer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 09:39:04 GMT
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```
> function mstime2sqlts, msdatetime
> return, js2sqlts((msdatetime-36526d0)*86400d0)
> end
```

>
Changed to:

```
function mstime2sqlts, msdatetime
```

```
if floor(msdatetime) eq 60 then begin
  print, 'WARNING!'
  print, ' You tried to convert a date with value 60'
  print, ' which corresponds to 29.2.1900 according'
  print, ' to Micro$oft! However this date does not'
  print, ' exist and is converted to 1.3.1900!'
end
```

```
if msdatetime lt 61 then msdatetime=msdatetime+1
return, js2sqlts((msdatetime-36526d0)*86400d0)
```

```
end
```

Now i feel much better!!! :-)

Olaf

--

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Subject: Re: Error in function js2ymds (JHU/APL/S1R IDL Lib)?

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 14 Sep 2001 10:14:14 GMT

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Olaf Stetzer wrote:

```
>
> Reimar Bauer schrieb:
>>
>> Olaf Stetzer wrote:
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```

```

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>>
>> Dear Olaf,
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>>
>
> Are you sure that this function is aware of the 29.2.1900-bug in
> ms-date? By looking at the code for xls2js I am not sure about this!
>
> Olaf
>

```

I have tested it with some of your data and I got the right days back.
And the routine is tested since 1998 many time by others too.

Reimar
--
Reimar Bauer

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

=====

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

=====
read something about linux / windows

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