
Subject: Re: Octals

Posted by [Jaco van Gorkom](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 14:40:12 GMT

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Steve Cole wrote:

> ...

> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)

... , title = TeXtoIDL('\cdot')

or

... , title = TeXtoIDL('\times')

TeXtoIDL can be found at <http://physweb.mnstate.edu/mcraig/TeXtoIDL/> .

Cheers,

Jaco

Subject: Re: Octals

Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 15:11:29 GMT

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Steve,

Lookup the values you want in the charsets, eg "*" is octal 52, which is written in IDL as '52'OB. To use it in a string use STRING():

```
IDL> print, string('52'Ob)
```

```
*
```

```
IDL> title = "frequency " + string('52'Ob) + " wavelength"
```

```
IDL> print, title
```

```
frequency * wavelength
```

```
; eg usage in a plot title
```

```
IDL> plot, indgen(10), title=title
```

Martin

"Steve Cole" <s.j.cole@ex.ac.uk> wrote in message

news:3BC5A7F1.718B0997@ex.ac.uk...

> Does anybody know how to print a character or symbol by its octal value?

>

> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)

>

> Any help would be gratefully recieved.

>

> Thanks

>

> Steve Cole
> University of Exeter
>

Subject: Re: Octals
Posted by [Steve Cole](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 15:48:35 GMT
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Cheers guys thanks for the help.

Steve

Subject: Re: Octals
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 15:59:17 GMT
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Martin Downing wrote:

>
> Steve,
>
> Lookup the values you want in the charsets, eg "*" is octal 52, which is
> written in IDL as '52'OB. To use it in a string use STRING():
>
> IDL> print, string('52'Ob)
> *
> IDL> title = "frequency " + string('52'Ob) + " wavelength"

Normaly we should always use ' for strings.

Because " with numbers gives an octal number, e.g.

```
IDL> print, "10
      8
```

regards
Reimar

> IDL> print, title
> frequency * wavelength
> ; eg usage in a plot title
> IDL> plot, indgen(10), title=title
>
> Martin
>
> "Steve Cole" <s.j.cole@ex.ac.uk> wrote in message

> news:3BC5A7F1.718B0997@ex.ac.uk...
>> Does anybody know how to print a character or symbol by its octal value?
>>
>> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)
>>
>> Any help would be gratefully recieved.
>>
>> Thanks
>>
>> Steve Cole
>> University of Exeter
>>

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
<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: Octals
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 16:01:11 GMT
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Steve Cole wrote:

>
> Does anybody know how to print a character or symbol by its octal value?
>
> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)

I like to understand why do want to print the '*' by it's octal value?

regards
Reimar

>

> Any help would be gratefully recieved.
>
> Thanks
>
> Steve Cole
> University of Exeter

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
<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: Octals

Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 18:37:31 GMT

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"Reimar Bauer" <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> wrote in message
news:3BC5C1D5.9FB46B1C@fz-juelich.de...

> Martin Downing wrote:
>>
>> IDL> title = "frequency " + string('52'Ob) + " wavelength"
>
> Normaly we should always use ' for strings.
>
> Because " with numbers gives an octal number, e.g.
>
> IDL> print, "10
> 8

Well if anyone reading my code misread "frequency" as an octal number,
then I humbly appollogise!

Your right though, but Im afraid use of double quotes for strings is deep
seated

for me from C/C++. NOw we are on the topic, I've got to say that

interpreting "01 as shorthand for
octal 01 was just a daft overload of the language, it really seems
half-baked, look at these examples for illustration:

```
IDL> help, "1034  
<Expression> INT = 540  
; OK....
```

```
IDL> help, "1034r  
help, "1034r  
^  
% Syntax error.  
; fair enough
```

```
IDL> help, "10349673  
<Expression> INT = 540  
; *&*&??????  
IDL> help, "910349673  
<Expression> STRING = '910349673'
```

IDL LOGIC: "Digits 8 or 9 indicate that the string is indeed a string if
they appear first, if they appear later on then let's just discard them -
surely the programmer didnt want them anyway..."

cheers

Martin

Subject: Re: Octals
Posted by [george.mccabe](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 19:48:12 GMT
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steve,

will byte value do? try string(42B) -

```
IDL> plot,indgen(1),title=string(42B)+" <- steve's muliplication symbol"
```

george, george.mccabe@gsfc.nasa.gov

Steve Cole <s.j.cole@ex.ac.uk> wrote in message news:<3BC5A7F1.718B0997@ex.ac.uk>...

> Does anybody know how to print a character or symbol by its octal value?

>

> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)

>

> Any help would be gratefully recieved.

>

> Thanks
>
> Steve Cole
> University of Exeter

Subject: Re: Octals

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 12 Oct 2001 05:20:44 GMT

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"Martin Downing" <martin.downing@ntlworld.com> writes:

```
> "Reimar Bauer" <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> wrote in message
> news:3BC5C1D5.9FB46B1C@fz-juelich.de...
>> Martin Downing wrote:
>>>
>>> IDL> title = "frequency " + string('52'Ob) + " wavelength"
>>
>> Normally we should always use ' for strings.
>>
>> Because " with numbers gives an octal number, e.g.
>>
>> IDL> print, "10
>>      8
>
>
> Well if anyone reading my code misread "frequency" as an octal number,
> then I humbly appologise!
> Your right though, but Im afraid use of double quotes for strings is deep
> seated
> for me from C/C++. NOw we are on the topic, I've got to say that
> interpreting "01 as shorthand for
> octal 01 was just a daft overload of the language, it really seems
> half-baked, look at these examples for illustration:
> ... deleted ...
```

I wholeheartedly agree, the double-quotes-is-octal thing is definitely a loser. The single-quotes-is-hexadecimal works for me, but somehow I am pretty used to it. While I am always pretty much aligned with 100% backwards compatibility, octal constants are one thing that I definitely feel should be removed (except for the Mac OS X version?).

If you see them in new code, run, don't hide. If you see them in old code, change them fast! They can be achieved much more reliably with single quotes.

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: Octals
Posted by [Steve Cole](#) on Fri, 12 Oct 2001 09:07:31 GMT
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Yes that is great problem is now sorted, thanks very much for your helpful comments.

George McCabe wrote:

```
> steve,  
>  
> will byte value do? try string(42B) -  
>  
> IDL> plot,indgen(1),title=string(42B)+" <- steve's muliplication symbol"  
>  
> george, george.mccabe@gsfc.nasa.gov  
>  
> Steve Cole <s.j.cole@ex.ac.uk> wrote in message news:<3BC5A7F1.718B0997@ex.ac.uk>...  
>> Does anybody know how to print a character or symbol by its octal value?  
>>  
>> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)  
>>  
>> Any help would be gratefully recieved.  
>>  
>> Thanks  
>>  
>> Steve Cole  
>> University of Exeter
```

Subject: Re: Octals
Posted by [Steve Cole](#) on Fri, 12 Oct 2001 09:20:28 GMT
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Well I wanted a 'x' type symbol and didn't realise that it was actually in the Math and Special font, also I was curious to find out how to print other symbols by their octal numbers for future reference as I have only just started using IDL and couldn't find it in the manuals that we have got. Hope this clears it up for you!!!

Cheers

Steve Cole

Reimar Bauer wrote:

> Steve Cole wrote:

>>

>> Does anybody know how to print a character or symbol by its octal value?

>>

>> (I am trying to put a multiplication sign in the title of a plot)

>

> I like to understand why do want to print the '*' by it's octal value?

>

> regards

> Reimar

>

>>

>> Any help would be gratefully recieved.

>>

>> Thanks

>>

>> Steve Cole

>> University of Exeter

>

> --

> Reimar Bauer

>

> Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)

> Forschungszentrum Juelich

> email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

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

> =====

> a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

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>

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> =====

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