
Subject: Re: [Q] illegal character?

Posted by [landers](#) on Thu, 28 Jul 1994 13:27:34 GMT

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In article <1994Jul26.061603.10056@news.snu.ac.kr>, s_lumber@cd4680.snu.ac.kr (JeeYong Park) writes:

> In programming IDL3.0, whenever I tried to open files with name starting
> with number or character x, I ran into an illegal character error.
> I mean when I try "openr, 1, 'c:\user\yong\xy1234.dat'" those errors
> occur. I guess IDL recognizes something starting with \x or \number as
> hex or octal number.
> I'd like to know how to read this kind of file except renaming file name.
>
> I'd like to you have time to answer this question and please e-mail me
> personally as well as posting here.
> My e-mail address is : slumber@alliant.snu.ac.kr
>
> Thank you in advance.
>
>
>

In a string, '\123' is interpreted as octal, and '\x34' or '\X34' as hex.
You are supposed to be able to use '\\' to represent a literal '\', but this
doesn't seem to work right in PV-WAVE CL 4.20 - don't know about IDL.
You can play games with concatenating strings, having each end in a \, like:
'c:\' + 'user\' + 'yong\' + 'xy1234.dat'

A bit awkward.

Good luck,
;Dave

Subject: Re: [Q] illegal character?

Posted by [djackson](#) on Thu, 28 Jul 1994 15:40:43 GMT

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s_lumber@cd4680.snu.ac.kr (JeeYong Park) writes:

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Annyong haseyo,

I think the " openr, 1, 'c:\user\yong\xy1234.dat' " problem you're having is exactly as you described, that \x... is treated as a numeric constant. This was changed, I believe in version 3.1 or 3.5 so that it is not treated this way, for the convenience of users on DOS machines. (this caused some problems with people who relied on the \x... notation, but your problem is now the reverse!)

If you have any way to upgrade, this will provide the solution, or you could try " openr, 1, 'c:\user\yong\' + 'xy1234.dat' " which might work fine in some cases. Or in general, '\' + 'x' should be an adequate replacement.

Cheers,
-Dick

Dick Jackson djackson@ibd.nrc.ca Standard disclaimer
Institute for Biodiagnostics, National Research Council Canada

Subject: Re: [Q] illegal character?
Posted by [braendle](#) on Mon, 01 Aug 1994 16:52:09 GMT
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Try / instead of \ as directory separators in the full qualified pathname
e.g. use: 'c:/temp/x1234.dat' instead of
 'c:\temp\x1234.dat'
to avoid the misinterpretation.
This usually works well with DOS & Windows programs

Hope this helps

Gerhard
