
Subject: Re: using octal codes for special characters
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 16 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Lothar Schueller (lothar@amor.met.fu-berlin.de) writes:

> I'd like to print large brackets in a PostScript file. I think the best
> idea is to use the Symbol Font and the "bracketlefttp",
> "bracketleftex",.... characters. How do I have access to them under IDL?
> Is it possible to use the octal encoding?
>
> I dont know what to type on the keyboard. I use IDL 5.1 under SuSE Linux
> 5.3

I'd like to help you out here, Lothar. I *love* octal programming
and my very favorite newsgroup discussion of 1998 involved the
octal coding of the angstrom symbol. :-)

But I'm having some trouble discovering just what brackets you
want to use here. Where did you come up with the name "bracketlefttp"?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 17 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Lothar (lothar@amor.met.fu-berlin.de) writes:

> The "bracketlefttp" is an expression I found in a PostScript-Reference
> book. It is the upper part of the "[" character, which can be combined
> with its counterpart "bracketleftbt" to a larger bracket. I want to use
> it for an axis label with a fractional expression. The octal code for
> the bracketlefttp is 351.

Ah, yes.

Since you know its octal code, the way you use it is like this:

First, go into the PostScript device and select your font and IsoLatin encoding:

```
Set_Plot, 'PS'  
Device, /IsoLatin1
```

To use this bracket in a string, you would type something like this. Note that !9 is the default coding for the Symbol font in PostScript, although you may have changed it. Note the double quote in front of the octal number and the "B" to force it to be a byte value. The !X reverts to whatever font was in place before I switched to Symbol. Notice that I *must* use hardware fonts. If I don't, I get the integral sign instead of the bracket you are looking for.

```
XYOutS, 0.5, 0.5, Align=0.5, /Normal, Size=3, $  
'!9' + String("351B) + '!X more text', Font=0
```

Cheers,

David

--

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Thanks

Lothar

David Fanning wrote:

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