

**NAME**

**catopen** - open message catalog

**LIBRARY**

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <nl_types.h>
```

```
nl_catd
```

```
catopen(const char *name, int oflag);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **catopen()** function opens the message catalog specified by *name* and returns a message catalog descriptor. If *name* contains a '/' then *name* specifies the full pathname for the message catalog, otherwise the value of the environment variable NLSPATH is used with the following substitutions:

%N The value of the *name* argument.

%L The value of the LANG environment variable or the LC\_MESSAGES category (see below).

%l The language element from the LANG environment variable or from the LC\_MESSAGES category.

%t The territory element from the LANG environment variable or from the LC\_MESSAGES category.

%c The codeset element from the LANG environment variable or from the LC\_MESSAGES category.

%% A single % character.

An empty string is substituted for undefined values.

Path names templates defined in NLSPATH are separated by colons (':'). A leading or two adjacent colons is equivalent to specifying %N.

If the *oflag* argument is set to the NL\_CAT\_LOCALE constant, LC\_MESSAGES locale category used to open the message catalog; using NL\_CAT\_LOCALE conforms to the X/Open Portability Guide Issue 4 ("XPG4") standard. You can specify 0 for compatibility with X/Open Portability Guide Issue 3

("XPG3"); when *oflag* is set to 0, the LANG environment variable determines the message catalog locale.

A message catalog descriptor remains valid in a process until that process closes it, or until a successful call to one of the `exec(3)` function.

## RETURN VALUES

Upon successful completion, `catopen()` returns a message catalog descriptor. Otherwise, `(nl_catd) -1` is returned and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

## ERRORS

[EINVAL]           Argument *name* does not point to a valid message catalog, or catalog is corrupt.

[ENAMETOOLONG]     An entire path to the message catalog exceeded 1024 characters.

[ENOENT]           The named message catalog does not exist, or the *name* argument points to an empty string.

[ENOMEM]           Insufficient memory is available.

## SEE ALSO

`gencat(1)`, `catclose(3)`, `catgets(3)`, `setlocale(3)`

## STANDARDS

The `catopen()` function conforms to IEEE Std 1003.1-2001 ("POSIX.1").