

Chapter IV-3 — User-Defined Functions

If your procedure file uses non-ASCII characters then we recommend that you add a `TextEncoding` pragma as this will allow Igor to reliably interpret it regardless of the user's operating system, system locale and default text encoding setting.

If the procedure file is to be used in Igor7 and later only then you should use the UTF-8 text encoding, like this:

```
#pragma TextEncoding = "UTF-8"
```

This allows you to use any Unicode character in the file.

The following text encodings are not supported for procedure files:

UTF-16LE, UTF-16BE, UTF32-LE, UTF32-BE

If you attempt to use these in a procedure file Igor will report an error.

Igor automatically adds a `TextEncoding` pragma under some circumstances.

It adds a `TextEncoding` pragma if you set the text encoding of a procedure file by clicking the Text Encoding button at the bottom of the window or by choosing Procedure→Text Encoding.

It adds a `TextEncoding` pragma if it displays the Choose Text Encoding dialog when you open a procedure file because it is unable to convert the text to UTF-8 without your help.

It is possible for the `TextEncoding` pragma to be in conflict with the text encoding used to open the file. For example, imagine that you open a file containing

```
#pragma TextEncoding = "Windows-1252"
```

and then you change "Windows-1252" to "UTF-8" by editing the file. You have now created a conflict where the text encoding used to open the file was one thing but the `TextEncoding` pragma is another. To resolve this conflict, Igor displays the Resolve Text Encoding Conflict dialog. In the dialog you can choose to make the file's text encoding match the `TextEncoding` pragma or to make the `TextEncoding` pragma match the file's text encoding. You can also cancel the dialog and manually edit the `TextEncoding` pragma.

For background information, see **Text Encodings** on page III-459.

The DefaultTab Pragma

The `DefaultTab` pragma allows you to set the width of a procedure file's default tabs to facilitate aligning comments in the file. It was added in Igor Pro 9.00 and is ignored by earlier versions of Igor. See **The Default Tab Pragma For Procedure Files** on page III-406 for details.

Unknown Pragas

Igor ignores pragmas that it does not know about. This allows newer versions of Igor to use new pragmas while older versions ignore them. The downside of this change is that, if you misspell a pragma keyword, Igor will not warn you about it.

Proc Pictures

Proc pictures are binary PNG or JPEG images encoded as printable ASCII text in procedure files. They are intended for programmers who need to display pictures as part of the user interface for a procedure package. They can be used with the **DrawPICT** operation and with the picture keyword of the **Button**, **CheckBox**, and **CustomControl** operations.

The syntax for defining and using a proc picture is illustrated in the following example:

```
// PNG: width= 56, height= 44
Picture MyGlobalPicture
  ASCII85Begin
    M,6r;%14!\!!!!.8Ou6I!!!!Y!!!!M#Qau+!5G;q_uKc;&TgHDFAm*iFE_/6AH5;7DfQssEc39jTBQ
```