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# YAML Ain't Markup Language

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Email Archive: [yaml-core](#) (read-only)

2001:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (101)	Jun (157)	Jul (89)	Aug (135)	Sep (17)	Oct (86)	Nov (410)	Dec (311)
2002:	Jan (76)	Feb (100)	Mar (139)	Apr (138)	May (234)	Jun (178)	Jul (271)	Aug (286)	Sep (816)	Oct (50)	Nov (28)	Dec (137)
2003:	Jan (62)	Feb (25)	Mar (97)	Apr (34)	May (35)	Jun (32)	Jul (32)	Aug (57)	Sep (67)	Oct (176)	Nov (36)	Dec (37)
2004:	Jan (20)	Feb (93)	Mar (16)	Apr (36)	May (59)	Jun (48)	Jul (20)	Aug (154)	Sep (868)	Oct (41)	Nov (63)	Dec (60)
2005:	Jan (59)	Feb (15)	Mar (16)	Apr (14)	May (19)	Jun (16)	Jul (25)	Aug (19)	Sep (7)	Oct (12)	Nov (18)	Dec (41)
2006:	Jan (16)	Feb (65)	Mar (51)	Apr (75)	May (38)	Jun (25)	Jul (23)	Aug (16)	Sep (24)	Oct (3)	Nov (1)	Dec (10)
2007:	Jan (4)	Feb (5)	Mar (7)	Apr (29)	May (38)	Jun (3)	Jul (1)	Aug (17)	Sep (1)	Oct	Nov (11)	Dec (16)
2008:	Jan (11)	Feb (4)	Mar (7)	Apr (48)	May (17)	Jun (9)	Jul (6)	Aug (12)	Sep (5)	Oct (7)	Nov (4)	Dec (11)
2009:	Jan (15)	Feb (28)	Mar (12)	Apr (44)	May (6)	Jun (16)	Jul (6)	Aug (37)	Sep (107)	Oct (24)	Nov (30)	Dec (22)
2010:	Jan (8)	Feb (16)	Mar (11)	Apr (28)	May (9)	Jun (26)	Jul (7)	Aug (25)	Sep (2)	Oct	Nov	Dec
2011:	Jan (5)	Feb (6)	Mar (3)	Apr (2)	May (10)	Jun (44)	Jul (11)	Aug (8)	Sep (6)	Oct (42)	Nov (19)	Dec (5)
2012:	Jan (23)	Feb (8)	Mar (9)	Apr (11)	May (2)	Jun (11)	Jul	Aug (18)	Sep (1)	Oct (15)	Nov (14)	Dec (8)
2013:	Jan (5)	Feb (13)	Mar (2)	Apr (10)	May	Jun (6)	Jul (17)	Aug (2)	Sep (2)	Oct	Nov	Dec

[Yaml-core] RFC 822 and YAML

From: Clark C. Evans <cce@cl...> - 2001-05-19 05:04

I've been reading quite a bit more on RFC822, some of the information that I have stated is partially correct. This is an attempt to clarify.

1. There are two types of header fields in RFC822, structured and unstructured.
2. In both cases, the header name may only include printable characters (33-126) excluding the colon. Thus, a space is not permitted between the end of the name and the colon.
3. In both cases, a header value may contain any sequence of ASCII characters (1-127), although CR and LF are not significant.
4. In both cases, before any whitespace character, a CRLF pair can be inserted or removed as necessary to wrap the line to the required number of columns (76 in old systems, 250 in newer systems)
5. In both cases, each header line is delimited by a CRLF followed by a printable ascii character in line one. Note that this is consistent.
6. Structured fields add significantly more constraints:
  - a. They introduce the notion of "comments" by using the parenthesis
  - b. They have the concept of a domain literal, which is specific to e-mail requirements.
  - c. They have "quoted strings" used to allow the usage of special characters without escaping.
  - d. Read the spec... it's tedious.

Note: In particular (I mis-informed earlier...) consecutive whitespace in quotes are not preserved within structured fields!
7. Structured fields also treat multiple linear space characters (tabs and spaces) as a single space.
8. The header terminates with a CRLF CRLF sequence, other wise known as a blank line.
9. For RFC 822 compliance, mandatory headers must include: Date, From and either To or BCC.
10. Interesting to note that vCard uses the semi-colon in names to indicate a type hierarchy, it also includes key=value parameters, for example...  
TEL;WORK;FORMAT=X:
11. Also interestingly, mbox is concatenated RFC (header+body) messages, where a "From" line (without the colon) containing e-mail address and a date is used to indicate the start of a new message

#### Impacts:

- A. To remain "consistent", we should use the colon as the magic seperator between the key and value in a map. Further, we should allow the key to be flush against the colon.
- B. Due to the folding constraints (#4 above), YAML will not be valid RFC 882. No way around this without significant changes, and significant changes are not possible.
- C. Previous ideas that we needed "quoting" to follow RFC 882 was incorrect. We are free to design what ever meaning we require for "quoted strings".

D. The multiple space condensation rules only

D. The multiple space condensation rules only apply to \*Structured\* RFC822 headers. Thus, this process may have to be suspended when in the RFC822 headers.

E. The mandatory headers can be used as a guide as to if the section is RFC822 or YAML.

Summary:

A minimal RFC822 support (unstructured only) is going to be a cake walk to implement and will be included in the spec.

We may want to re-consider our "a b" technique... although I still like it.

I apologize for any mis-conceptions that I may have propagated earlier.

Kind Regards,

Clark

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