

## C# error With ExcelDataReader

[Ask Question](#)

1

Recently I was trying to build an app that can read excel files. But just after I select the excel file I get an error saying this:



'ExcelDataReader.Exceptions.HeaderException' occurred in ExcelDataReader.dll

Additional information: Invalid file signature."

The error is caught on line 38

here is a copy of my code

```
using ExcelDataReader;
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.ComponentModel;
using System.Data;
using System.Drawing;
using System.Linq;
using System.Text;
using System.Threading.Tasks;
using System.Windows.Forms;

namespace Alt_jde
{
    public partial class Form1 : Form
    {
        public Form1()
        {
            InitializeComponent();
        }
    }
}
```

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).

```
}

private void label1_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
}

DataSet result;
private void btnOpen_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
    using(OpenFileDialog ofd = new OpenFileDialog() )
    {
        if (ofd.ShowDialog()==DialogResult.OK)
        {
            System.IO.FileStream fs = System.IO.File.Open(ofd.FileName,
System.IO.FileMode.Open, System.IO.FileAccess.Read);
            IExcelDataReader reader = ExcelReaderFactory.CreateBinaryReader(fs);
            // ERROR HERE
            var result = reader.AsDataSet(new ExcelDataSetConfiguration()
            {
                ConfigureDataTable = (_) => new ExcelDataTableConfiguration()
                {
                    UseHeaderRow = true
                }
            });
            cbosheet.Items.Clear();
            foreach (DataTable dt in result.Tables)
                cbosheet.Items.Add(dt.TableName);
            reader.Close();
        }
    }

    private void cbosheet_SelectedIndexChanged(object sender, EventArgs e)
    {
        dataGridView.DataSource = result.Tables[cbosheet.SelectedIndex];
    }
}
```

c#

excel

exceldatareader

edited Jul 2 '18 at 14:54



David R Tribble

[Home](#)

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).

asked Jun 28 '18 at 9:45



Jeremy22

13 1 4

Tags

Users

Jobs

Teams

Q&amp;A for work

[Learn More](#)

Are you positive the file your working with in an xls/xlsx/csv file? – [Alex K.](#) Jun 28 '18 at 10:32

yes i am @AlexK. it is an xlsx file – [Jeremy22](#) Jun 28 '18 at 10:47

## 1 Answer



The code calls `ExcelReaderFactory.CreateBinaryReader` which is for the XLS format.

6



Instead, change to use

`ExcelReaderFactory.CreateOpenXmlReader` for the XLSX format specifically, or use `ExcelReaderFactory.CreateReader` to autodetect either XLS or XLSX formats transparently.



answered Jul 2 '18 at 13:58



user8728340

186 4

Yep, XLSX files are actually XML formatted files. – [David R Tribble](#) Jul 2 '18 at 14:56

Thank you `ExcelReaderFactory.CreateReader` worked – [Jeremy22](#) Jul 3 '18 at 7:39

You saved my day ! Thanks for sharing this. – [Mostafa](#) Mar 20 at 8:49