## 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 exists, 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").