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2017-05-10 08:15 PDT

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ID	Project	Category	View Status	Date Submitted	Last Update
0000705	X3D	19776-1 (XML)	public	2015-06-30 07:22	2017-04-26 07:28
Reporter	walroy				
Assigned To	brutzman				
Priority	normal	Severity	minor	Reproducibility	N/A
Status	acknowledged	Resolution	open		

Summary 0000705: 5.15 SFString and MFString - Escaping backslashes**Description** 5.15 SFString and MFString
<http://www.web3d.org/files/specifications/19776-1/V3.3/Part01/EncodingOfFields.html#SFString>

The X3D XML encoding specification doesn't make it clear that in XML encoding inside MFString (but *not* inside SFString) escaping backslashes is mandatory. Just like in classic encoding (where it's for both MFString and SFString).

Section "5.15 SFString and MFString" of XML encoding specification doesn't say anything about backslashes. It only shows an example:

EXAMPLE 2 Two instances of the double quote are contained in the following SFString field string:

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```
<Text string=""He said, \"Immel did it!\""" />
```

but

1. The example description is wrong, it should apply to MFString *only*, not to SFString. In XML encoding, backslashes should *not* be escaped for SFString, but they *have to* be escaped for MFString.

2. The specification prose doesn't say anything about backslashes. Contrary to a nice X3D classic encoding specification, that clearly describes the backslashes situation.

This was discussed on x3d-public in 2011, see

http://www.web3d.org/pipermail/x3d-public_web3d.org/2011-July/001697.html ,

confirmed with other browsers, and submitted as spec comment. Without any response or action on the part of Web3d consortium. Sorry for being harsh, but people *are* affected by the unclear specification (see e.g.

<https://sourceforge.net/p/castle-engine/tickets/14/>). It's sad to see that an issue that was reported 2 years ago is still not fixed in the spec.

I propose to fix this, by adding to spec text clarifying backslashes situation, and also fixing "Example 2" description. Like this:

Double quotes (") inside strings in MFString fields should be preceded by a backslash. Moreover, normal backslashes should be doubled. This is necessary to distinguish between double quotes delimiting items of the MFString, and double quotes inside string content.

EXAMPLE 2 Two instances of the double quote are contained in the following MFString field string:

```
<Text string=""He said, \"Immel did it!\""" />
```

The above rule does not apply to SFString, or other attributes (for example META content). That is, inside SFString and such content, backslashes don't have any special meaning.

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Additional Information

Submitted on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 - 15:54
by (Michalis Kamburelis <michalis.kambi at gmail.com>)
IP: 83.5.246.47

See: <http://www.web3d.org/realtime-3d/node/174/submission/153>

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related to [0001091](#) acknowledged [brutzman](#) 5.15 SFString and MFString - Confusion between XML and X3D syntax for SFString [[Delete](#)]

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Date Modified	Username	Field	Change
2015-06-30 07:22	walroy	New Issue	
2016-12-08 02:51	walroy	Relationship added	related to 0001091
2016-12-30 13:12	brutzman	Assigned To	=> brutzman
2016-12-30 13:12	brutzman	Status	new => acknowledged
2017-04-26 07:28	brutzman	Relationship added	related to 0000488

