

## Ruby master - Bug #15044

### ENV encoding not UTF-8 by default

08/29/2018 02:44 PM - lowang (Przemyslaw Wroblewski)

<b>Status:</b> Open	
<b>Priority:</b> Normal	
<b>Assignee:</b>	
<b>Target version:</b>	
<b>ruby -v:</b> ruby 2.5.1p57 (2018-03-29 revision 63029) [x86_64-linux]	<b>Backport:</b> 2.3: UNKNOWN, 2.4: UNKNOWN, 2.5: UNKNOWN
<b>Description</b> \$ irb 2.5.1 :001 > 'secret'.encoding => #<Encoding:UTF-8> 2.5.1 :002 > ENV['PASS'] = 'secret'; ENV['PASS'].encoding => #<Encoding:US-ASCII> 2.5.1 :009 > ENV['PASS'] = 'Ĺ' => "\u0141" 2.5.1 :010 > ENV['PASS'].encoding => #<Encoding:ASCII-8BIT>  I would expect all encodings to be <b>UTF-8</b> at all times	

### History

#### #1 - 08/29/2018 06:40 PM - shevegen (Robert A. Heiler)

If I put this into a .rb file:

```
puts 'secret'.encoding
ENV['PASS'] = 'secret'
puts ENV['PASS'].encoding
```

On my system I get these two Strings output:

```
UTF-8
ISO-8859-1
```

My environment is, aka my current locale, iso-8859-1, so the results that I get seem correct. I can change the UTF-8 default encoding if I use a shebang line in the .rb file, which I normally do, so all my encodings are the same (ISO-8859-1; regexes used to behave a bit oddly sometimes but I am not sure if that has changed or not).

I think ENV behaves a little bit differently upon an assignment.

If I use a shebang line in a .rb file that includes the above unicode character (this weird L), then all string encodings in that .rb file are also ISO-8859-1, so I am not sure if there is any bug at all. It may be more related to IRB perhaps? I skipped testing on IRB mostly because .rb files have a "higher weight" than code put through IRB.

The documentation does not mention what happens with encodings when these are assigned to an ENV key, though:

<https://ruby-doc.org/core-2.5.1/ENV.html>

Perhaps it has more to do with IRB, in which case it could be added there:

<http://ruby-doc.org/stdlib-2.5.1/libdoc/irb/rdoc/IRB.html>

And of course it may be that there is indeed a bug. You can try to test with a standalone .rb file though and, if necessary, with a specific shebang comment.