

---

Subject: idl-1.41.el needs help

Posted by [Kevin Ivory](#) on Thu, 14 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

The Emacs major mode for IDL programming has received a few minor bug fixes by J.D. Smith. The fixes refer to some problems with the fontifying (= syntax coloring) of objects in IDL source code.

I am about ready to publish idl.el version 1.41, but it still has one basic flaw that should be fixed first. Anyone with a little experience with Emacs lisp is asked to help out. (I tried posting in comp.emacs already, but only received a reference to another large package.)

The following construct for font-locking is in idl.el (lines 478-532)

```
(defvar idl-font-lock-keywords
  (if (or (save-match-data (string-match "Lucid" emacs-version))
        (not (boundp 'emacs-minor-version)) (< emacs-minor-version 30))
      ;;
      ;; For Emacs 19.29 and below, and Lucid/XEmacs.
      (
    ;; some font-locking code
      )
      ;; For Emacs 19.30 and up
      (
    ;; other font-locking code
      )
    "Default expressions to highlight in IDL mode.")
```

The problems began with Emacs 20, since only the minor-version is checked. There is also a variable emacs-major-version which should be checked and equal to 19 for the if clause. The correct way of checking the version number should also take into account that the variables were undefined in Emacs versions 19.23 and before (-> use boundp to check if variable exists).

Something else is very strange: In the Emacs 19.30+ part, the function font-lock-match-c++-style-declaration-item-and-skip-to-next is used. This function is only defined Xemacs versions of font-lock, but not in the GNU Emacs version. Does anyone know if it should stay in there?

Thanks for the help,  
Kevin

P.S.: You can find the most recent version of idl.el at

<ftp://pivory.mpae.gwdg.de/pub/idl/emacs/>

<http://pivory.mpae.gwdg.de/idl/emacs/>

[http://www.mpae.gwdg.de/mpae\\_RZ/software/idl/emacs/](http://www.mpae.gwdg.de/mpae_RZ/software/idl/emacs/)

--

Kevin Ivory                      Tel: +49 5556 979 434  
Max-Planck-Institut fuer Aeronomie   Fax: +49 5556 979 240  
Max-Planck-Str. 2                      mailto:Kevin.Ivory@linmpi.mpg.de  
D-37191 Katlenburg-Lindau, GERMANY    <http://www.gwdg.de/~kivory2/>

---