
Subject: Re: IDL 5.5 help file

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Tue, 06 Nov 2001 22:22:18 GMT

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Mark Hadfield wrote:

>
> From: "renjie" <renjie.he@uth.tmc.edu>
>> how to find IDL 5.5 help file, the default is 5.4
>
> IDL 5.5 ships with version 5.4 help files, plus a "What's New" file for the
> 5.5 changes (whatsnew55.pdf).
>
> Yes, it is a bit shabby, isn't it?

Very shabby indeed.

For those of you who use Emacs and IDLWAVE, I'm putting the finishing touches on an IDL v5.5 update to the online help, which incorporates most of the updates to 5.5 as listed in "What's New". You'll get all the correct keyword completion, uniform access to the new routines added (like CPU ;), and even modified and new keyword/argument documentation "in-place" in the online help. It's a text-based help system directly converted from IDL's PDF help files, but it's *very* fast and insanely convenient.

For those of you who don't use Emacs and IDLWAVE... maybe now's the time to consider it.

For those of you who think Emacs is that old video format that lost out to VHS in the 80's, nothing to see here.

JD
