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Subject: Re: "?" help-command in linux

Posted by [Ken Mankoff](#) on Tue, 19 Apr 2005 20:11:45 GMT

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On Mon, 18 Apr 2005, Sean Davis wrote:

> Does anyone know how to control what happens when you use the "?"  
> command in idl on a linux machine. ...As in...  
>  
> IDL> ? OPLOT  
>  
> the default for idl 6.1 is to open up adobe acrobat, which, of  
> course, sucks for reading the online help. I have the html help  
> installed (for idlwave), and also xchm (<http://xchm.sf.net>). I  
> would ideally like xchm to open with the correct entry whenever I  
> use the ? command.  
>  
> thanks,  
> sean

Well I just tried to make a procedure called "?.pro" and that didn't work...

Are you using IDLWAVE? If yes, there is a simple approach: Write some LISP code to change the behavior. I could help with this but my LISP is rusty. I'm sure there are some people here who could do this in their sleep. But anyway, if you are using IDLWAVE there are better ways to get help than through ? (see previous post by JD).

Unfortunately, I think the end result will be you either a) deal with the current situation, or b) learn some new habits.

Those new habits don't have to be IDLWAVE. It could just be the habit of writing "IDL> h, 'foo'" rather than "? foo". Now, write 'h.pro' to do whatever it is you want.

-k.

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<http://spacebit.dyndns.org/>

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