
Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode)

Posted by [Ben Panter](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2007 16:42:27 GMT

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Mirko wrote:

> On Feb 27, 8:24 am, "Lasse Clausen" <l...@lbnc.de> wrote:

>> On 26 Feb, 16:00, Ben Panter <m...@privacy.net> wrote:

>>

>>

>>

>>> Mirko wrote:

>>>> Hello group,

>>>> I have submitted a feature request to RSI for unicode support. They
>>>> already have one request on file. I am hoping that by generating more
>>>> noise from us, we can push this request up the priority queue.

>>>> I would personally like to use Greek and other character sets to code
>>>> mathematical formulae.

>>>> I am guessing that our non-english speaking folks would also
>>>> appreciate the convenience of using their native characters.

>>>> Although, it may make IDL programs less shareable. I for one will not
>>>> be able to review or modify a code written in any of the oriental or
>>>> mid-eastern character sets.

>>>> Mirko

>

> This is a follow-up to both Ben's and Lasse's emails.

>

> Having a program with a greek character alpha displayed instead of
> five characters is a matter of easthetics and convenience. We have
> been programming without greek characters for close to 50 years now.
> We can keep doing it that way. But in the past 50 years we have
> switched from machine to assembly, to procedural, and now to object
> ways of doing programming. This is one example of change of
> programming practice.

>

> Some programs are transcriptions of mathematical formulae. It would
> be much easier to write them and debug them if the program notation
> followed the mathematical notation as close as possible.

>

> And, also imagine doing math using multi-letter names for variables in
> the equations. I would not find it very appealing.

>

> Mirko

>

Hi Mirko,

OK. Understand you now. I have to be honest though, it would be of
zero use for me - I have so many \mu's meaning different things that

almost always they are transcribed into mu_density, mu_mean, mu_blah...
and I really try to avoid single letter variables as unless you're
writing a simple math/plotting routine they're too ambiguous when you
come back to read your code again. Personally, I'd far rather ITTVS
spent some time releasing the new IDE, but there you are...

Good luck with your efforts,

Ben

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Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.
Email false, <http://www.benpanter.co.uk>
or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
