On Nov 30, 3:55 pm, Doug Edmundson <do...@ittvis.com> wrote:
> David Fanning wrote:
>> Doug Edmundson writes:
>
>>> Vince is correct. The IDL Workbench is parsing all the PRO code on your
>>> path, in the current directory, in your open projects, and editors. If
>>> you're similar to our ENVI developers, it can take a while to do all
>>> that! I've already taken quite a bit of ribbing on this, so the plan is
>>> to speed it up.
>
>> Given this, and given that I have several big libraries that
>> I always use: JHUAPL, ASTRO, MARKWART, COYOTE, etc., is it
>> better to make each of these "projects" and always open
>> them. Or, should I just add these directories to my path
>> and not bother to make them projects?
>
>> Cheers,
>
>> David
>
> David,
>
> I think a lot of people will be asking this.
>
> I'd probably have a project for each of them and leave them open all the
> time. One benefit is that you'll have all the nice searching
> capabilities of Eclipse, such as the "search" dialog. But that's not
> all! You also get "Open Resource" (see the "Navigate" menu). That's
> one of the IDE team's favorites. Doing cmd+shift+R pops up the "Open
> Resource" dialog. Type in a partial name of a file and voila... a list
> of matching files appears like magic. This is a fast way to hunt down
> files.
>
> The "Open Declaration" feature doesn't require projects and provides a
> fast way to hunt down routines.
>
> If you like to manually manage your path, those new projects should
> probably have the "Update IDL Path preference..." option turned off when
> you create them. That property can always be changed later (right click
> on a project, bring up its properties and select "IDL Project
> Properties"). For those totally new to the IDL Workbench, you can take
> a look at your path preference in "Preferences > IDL > Paths".
>
> So, projects can be pretty benign. You don't have to use them to build

> SAV files or anything like that, but they do facilitate a lot of the
> workbench functionality.
>
> Thanks for the good question.
>
> Doug

A couple of questions/comments
1- how does IDL-Wave for Emacs do this. Doesn't it build a "library"
file that keeps track of things like keywords and completions, etc.
Then that file can be quickly searched. Of course, if you change your
library, you have to re-scan the files, but I find this not too
inconvenient.
2- I'm having trouble figuring out exactly what the "Update IDL Path
preference..." option is for. I have a library directory with several
subdirectories containing various external libraries (like David's and
Craig's, etc.). These are always in my IDL_PATH. Then I used to
direct IDL to "Change directory on open" so that I could resolve_all
and find the other files that might be needed, since they are in the
same directory. These are specific routines - if they get generalized
and "library worthy", I would move them to my subdirectory in the
IDL_PATH directory. How can I best use the combination of IDL_PATH
and Projects to emulate this?