
Subject: Re: idlwave: spaces round = and other operators
Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Mon, 04 Feb 2008 19:27:15 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

```
> JD Smith wrote:
>> On Feb 1, 1:29 pm, Benjamin Hornberger
>> <hornb...@xray1.physics.sunysb.edu> wrote:
>>> JD Smith wrote:
>>>> On Jan 31, 6:36 pm, Benjamin Hornberger
>>>> <hornb...@xray1.physics.sunysb.edu> wrote:
>>>> > JD Smith wrote:
>>>> >> in my .emacs (of course with paths adjusted to my system), but it
>>>> >> didn't
>>>> >> help. It did get rid of the "HTML help location not found: try
>>>> >> setting
>>>> >> `idlwave-system-directory' and/or `idlwave-html-help-location'."
>>>> >> error
>>>> >> message when startingIDLWAVEbut didn't get rid of the "spaces around
>>>> >> operators" problem.
>>>> > Do you see the error message I mentioned?
>>>> > I did see the message "HTML help location not found: try setting
>>>> > >> `idlwave-system-directory' and/or `idlwave-html-help-location'.".
>>>> > That I could get rid of with the hints you mentioned (on theidlwave
>>>> > website), but it didn't solve the original problem
>>>> >> Try M-: (lengthidlwave-
>>>> >> routines) [RET]. Should be around 2500.
>>>> > 0 (#o0, #x0)
>>>> > What should I do about that?
>>>> You need to figure out why it's not finding and translating the
>>>> idl_catalog.xml file which is supposed to live in idl/help/
>>>> online_help.
>>>> Is this IDL 7? You didn't say. There's been some monkeying around
>>>> with the location of help files, and the entire help system which
>>>> IDLWAVEdoesn't know about; see this tech tip:
>>>> http://www.ittvis.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=4323
>>>> If you are using IDL 7, and don't want to go that whole route, you
>>>> could try creating a link or copy of idl_catalog.xml in help/
>>>> online_help (the moved it just to help/). I may release a version
>>>> which at least looks for the catalog file there.
>>> Yes, this is IDL 7.0, but I believe I had the problem with 6.4 as well
>>> (after installing Emacs 22).
>>>
>>> I had seen the tech tip and did already copy the online_help directory
>>> (didn't help).
>>>
>>> Anyway, do you think not finding the help system is responsible for the
>>> problem with space around operators? Doesn't sound like it's related to
```

>>> me. I have to say I never used the IDL help within Emacs/IDLWAVE
>>> (probably would be a good thing to learn), I always have the IDL help
>>> browser open. At the moment I am mostly concerned about the "spaces
>>> around operators" problem.

>>

>> Yes, that's the problem, and it should be IDL7-specific. IDLWAVE
>> specifically checks to avoid adding space around the '=' in keywords,
>> and to do so it brings the routine info up to date. Without routine
>> info, lots of other things won't work well either. You can also turn
>> keyword padding back on to get around this, but you're better off
>> simply copying idl_catalog.xml over to the old location (idl/help/
>> online_help), and restarting emacs. This won't change anything about
>> the help system.

>>

>> JD

>

> I see. Unfortunately, still no luck. I did copy the entire directory
> C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL64\help\online_help (which includes
> idl_catalog.xml) to the corresponding IDL70 path (I have both installed)
> as described in the ITTVIS tech tip . I do have the following two
> entries in my .emacs:

>

> ;; The location of the IDL library directories, both standard, and your
> own.

> ;; note that the initial "+" expands the path recursively
> (setq idlwave-library-path

> '("+C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL70\lib" "+C:\path\to\more\idl_stuff"))

>

> ;; location of the IDL system directory (try "print,!DIR")

> (setq idlwave-system-directory "C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL70")

>

> It still doesn't work (still get the beep and "wrong type argument:
> consp, nil" when typing "a="). I replaced IDL70 in both cases with
> IDL64, and it still doesn't work.

>

> IDLWAVE reports "cannot locate IDL assistant, enabling default browser"
> when loading a .pro file in Emacs (in both cases, with IDL70 and IDL64
> in the .emacs).

>

I just realized that I have installed IDL (6.4 and 7.0) in a path with
spaces (c:\Program Files\...) now, and my previous installation might
have been in a path without spaces. Is it possible that Emacs/idlwave
choke on that when looking for the IDL assistant?

I didn't use to install command-line stuff and stuff coming from the
Unix world in a path with spaces, because I had a lot of trouble in the
past (MiKTeX, for example). This time it looks like I didn't bother with

IDL, maybe thinking that those petty problems might be overcome in the 21st century.

So before going through the hassle of reinstalling IDL, I figured I'd ask if someone can confirm this might be a problem, or how to overcome it.

Again, the two possibly affected entries in my .emacs are

```
;; The location of the IDL library directories, both standard, and your  
own.
```

```
;; note that the initial "+" expands the path recursively
```

```
(setq idlwave-library-path
```

```
  ("+C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL64\lib" "+C:\path\to\more\idl_stuff"))
```

```
;; location of the IDL system directory (try "print,!DIR")
```

```
(setq idlwave-system-directory "C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL64")
```

Cheers,
Benjamin
