Subject: painful IDL 7 online help
Posted by LC's No-Spam Newsread[1] on Fri, 20 Jun 2008 12:13:01 GMT
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Our institute just switched to IDL 7.

I find that accessing the online help interface (? command) has become
extremely painful.

My environment is Linux Suse 9.2, and I use fvwm as window manager (with
two desktops with four workspaces each). Incidentally I have configured
the window manager so that my web browser (firefox) always opens in a
dedicated workspace.

And of course I usually run idl in another (any other) workspace.

In the past when I typed ? command in my idl session (runtime "idl"
command, no development environment !) it opened an online help window
in the same workspace. Now the help window is opened in the firefox
workspace.   This is painful enough.

What is more painful is that each time I click on a link in the help
pages, they open a new window each time. With no obvious way of closing
them other than the window manager menu bar, there is quickly a plethora
of help windows saturating the screen.

Apparently neither the usual firefox mouse tricks to open link in same
window or tab in same window, nor the firefox preferences are honoured.

This de facto makes the help environment unusable (e.g. to get the
necessary information on a seldom used command and associated keywords)

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