
Subject: Re: Inheriting Properties (or something similar) in IDLDOC
Posted by [Yngvar Larsen](#) on Wed, 29 Aug 2012 07:10:49 GMT
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On Tuesday, 10 July 2012 05:34:20 UTC+2, Mike Galloy wrote:

> On 7/9/12 6:05 PM, Bogdanovist wrote:

>

>> I've just started a project of re-commenting a large IDL code into

>

>> IDLDOC format and moving some external text file documentation into

>

>> those comments.

>

>>

>

>> One issue I have is that the code uses IDL custom object, and in

>

>> particular inheritance, extensively. I would like the documentation

>

>> for derived classes to inherit appropriate info from the parent class

>

>> documentation.

>

>>

>

>> In particular, the functionality of a lot of the object functions,

>

>> such as threshold levels and other parameters and switches are

>

>> controlled by config files. A base class may have some behaviour

>

>> controlled by some 'tag' in a config file and a derived class may be

>

>> controlled by additional tags. I would like a way to summarise all of

>

>> the config file tags that control an object (i.e. are looked at by any

>

>> of the objects functions) and then have derived classes documentation

>

>> inherit the summary from the superclass.

>

>>

>

>> Looking over the IDLDOC reference guide, I thought perhaps

>

>> the :Properties: tag in the file comments might allow this. So I have

>

>> comments in the base class <obj_name>__define.pro file that look

```

>
>> something like this:
>
>>
>
>> ;+
>
>> ; Abstract Base class for handling input data for mapping.
>
>> ; Provides a common interface for different data sources.
>
>> ;
>
>> ;:Properties:
>
>> ; data_type : property name
>
>> ; The IDL data type to use for the data storage array pointed to
>
>> by self.data
>
>> ; something_else :
>
>> ; Some other property
>
>> ;-
>
>>
>
>> This produces a nice summary of 'properties' in the IDLDOC produced
>
>> docs. However, this does not show up the doc page for derived classes
>
>> (not that I was expected to, just hoping....).
>
>>
>
>> Is there any way to achieve what I'm trying to do? For comparison the
>
>> way IDLDOC handles the actual class members is exactly the behaviour I
>
>> want, but for a 'user defined' set of properties of objects. Is this
>
>> possible?
>
>>
>
>

```

>
> Ah, no, not right now. That is an interesting feature though, that would
>
> be quite useful. I will make a feature ticket for that.
>
>
>
> One workaround for it right now would be to create a
>
> my_class_properties.idldoc page that lists all the properties for
>
> my_class and then (manually) link to that page from all the derived classes.
>
>
>
> Mike

[Sorry for the late posting. Slowly catching up on the back log from this summer.]

For what it's worth: I would also like this feature. In our software, we almost in every class use inheritance from a couple of base classes, and it would be nice if the methods from these would show up in the "Routine summary" in the derived classes.

--
Yngvar
