
Subject: Re: idltags?

Posted by [William Daffer](#) on Mon, 05 Aug 2002 19:17:42 GMT

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shawn@young.net (Shawn) writes:

> Hello,
> I am interested in getting something that makes a "tags" file for
> idl, the kind ctags makes. I have found references to idltags in the
> archives of this group, but am not sure that it is what I am looking
> for. I have tried to download it from the anonymous ftp site by
> following a link posted on the website,
> http://www.gsf.de/ILIAD/software/IDL/idl_www_sites.html. But the link
> is dead. So, does anyone know if this software is still available,
> and does it make a ctags type file that I can use with "Vim" (Vi
> Improved)?
> Thanks,
> Shawn

If you're an emacs user, look up idlwave-mode at <http://idlwave.org/>
It uses etags to generate a tags table. If not, but you're still a
unix user you might grab etags. The command that's called by
idlwave-shell to generate the tags file is:

```
etags --output=IDLTAGS --language=none \  
--regex='/[\\t]*[pP][Rr][Oo][ \\t]+\\([\\^ \\t,]+\\)' \  
--regex='/[\\t]*[Ff][Uu][Nn][Cc][Tt][Ii][Oo][Nn][ \\t]+\\([\\^ \\t,]+\\)' \  
foo.pro [... bar.pro ... etc.]
```

where the newlines have been escaped for readability.

or

```
etags --out...blah blah blah... ./dir1/*.pro [ ... ./dir2/*.pro ... etc.]
```

whd

--

CONTEMPT, n. The feeling of a prudent man for an enemy who is too
formidable safely to be opposed.

-- Ambrose Bierce: The Devil's Dictionary

Subject: Re: idltags?

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 05 Aug 2002 19:31:59 GMT

On Mon, 05 Aug 2002 06:19:42 -0700, Shawn wrote:

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> does it make a ctags type file that I can use with "Vim" (Vi Improved)?
> Thanks,
> Shawn

Idltags is available packaged with IDLWAVE, the Emacs IDL mode (idlwave.org). It's a perl script which calls etags (or ctags, your preference), recursing through an entire directory structure of routines if you wish.

You might be sure to change the first line to remove the "-d", which puts you in Perl's debug mode. The fact that this is still there shows you how seldom this program is used. IDLWAVE can also spawn etags internally, from the "IDLWAVE->External->Generate IDL tags" command. To be honest, I'm not really sure what function this serves anymore within IDLWAVE, which now has a much better mechanism for learning about your personal library of IDL code (the "catalog"), and can jump directly to source, or pull up as help, any .pro file it knows about. Maybe I'll remove it in a future release. If you insist on vi ;) then idltags might still be useful to you.

Good luck,

JD

Subject: Re: idltags?

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 05 Aug 2002 19:58:08 GMT

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On Mon, 05 Aug 2002 12:17:42 -0700, William Daffer wrote:

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>
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> etags --output=IDLTAGS --language=none \
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> --regex='[\\t]*[Ff][Uu][Nn][Cc][Tt][Ii][Oo][Nn][ \\t]+\\([\\^
> \\t,]+\\)' \\
>   foo.pro [... bar.pro ... etc.]
>
> where the newlines have been escaped for readability.
>
>
> or
>
> etags --out...blah blah blah... ./dir1/*.pro [ ... ./dir2/*.pro ...
> etc.]

```

For vi, he'll want the ctags version of this call, which is the default within the perl script "idltags". Is anyone actually using the IDLTAGS mechanism within Emacs and IDLWAVE? They seem to have been superseded in all ways by the user catalog.

I'd also like to gauge interest in the possibility of having multiple user catalogs and system catalogs, which can be built automatically (e.g. in a cron job). For instance, all system libraries (like NasaLib, etc.) could have a relatively static, site-wide catalog available to everyone on the system, and one or more transient personal libraries could be stored in the same way a user catalog is now. Eventually, I'd like to convince the large package maintainers to build and bundle such an IDLWAVE catalog with their packages, which would be found automatically, relieving the user the need to build them, and providing a much larger collection of routines IDLWAVE knows about without being told to look.