
Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 21:30:41 GMT

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Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:

> under IDL 5.6 (MacOS X+XDarwin) I don't get any syntax coloring of IDL
> code in idlde and didn't find any option to activate it. Does anyone
> know how to get it?

Oh, no. Doesn't anyone read this newsgroup!? :-(

Let me be the first to clue you in: IDLWAVE mode
in EMACS. Just learn it!

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [Bernard Knaepen](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 21:35:15 GMT

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That's the only way? No built-in support? I'll give emacs a try though.

Thanks,

Bernard.

ps: Anybody aware of a BBedit plug-in that does it?

In article <MPG.1863ff69142a3d0f989a68@news.frii.com>, David Fanning
<david@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:

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> in EMACS. Just learn it!
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> Cheers,
>
> David

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 21:57:54 GMT
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Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:

> That's the only way? No built-in support?

RSI has tried to get engineers to do it, but no one volunteered even when they doubled the salary offer. Believe me, it's painful to be shamed by JD and Carsten, and no one, including the fine folks at RSI, wants to go anywhere near this project. :-(

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [Bernard Knaepen](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 22:08:34 GMT
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In article <MPG.186405d0bf5243f9989a69@news.frii.com>, David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:
>
>> That's the only way? No built-in support?
>
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> volunteered even when they doubled the salary offer.
> Believe me, it's painful to be shamed by JD and Carsten,
> and no one, including the fine folks at RSI, wants to go
> anywhere near this project. :-(
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> Cheers,
>
> David

Just by curiosity, what makes implementation difficult? IDL 5.5 on MacOS Classic has color syntaxing and as far as I can tell from the documention Windows also has it. Does it have to do with X11?

Cheers,
Bernard.

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 22:24:09 GMT
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In article <131220021335155607%bknaepen@ulb.ac.be>,
Bernard Knaepen <bknaepen@ulb.ac.be> wrote:

> That's the only way? No built-in support? I'll give emacs a try though.
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> Bernard.
>
> ps: Anybody aware of a BBedit plug-in that does it?

I have asked BareBones about it, but IDL is such a low-volume product relative to their main market (HTML) that I don't think its ever gonna happen.

Ken Bowman

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 22:38:57 GMT
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Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:

> Just by curiosity, what makes implementation difficult? IDL 5.5 on
> MacOS Classic has color syntaxing and as far as I can tell from the
> documention Windows also has it. Does it have to do with X11?

Apparently not, since EMACS can use color syntaxing.

You are new to the group, so you probably don't know I make up all my "facts" about RSI, but I can imagine that if I were there I wouldn't want to work on an impossibly thank-less task like writing a feature that the IDLWAVE mode is going to handle better anyway.

I think RSI is just being realistic. Why invest time and money in something no one is going to use. (Well, INSIGHT comes to mind, but that's another story.) Everyone I know (including every developer at RSI I ever knew) uses the IDLWAVE EMACS mode. I think that's the bottom line. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 22:46:32 GMT
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David Fanning (david@dfanning.com) writes:

> Everyone I know (including every developer at RSI
> I ever knew) uses the IDLWAVE EMACS mode. I think
> that's the bottom line. :-)

And let's be realistic, once you *DO* learn EMACS you sure as hell aren't going to give it up for something *easier* to use. Do you see Mario Antretti driving a Yugo? I don't think so.

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [Bernard Knaepen](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 22:58:18 GMT
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In article <MPG.18640f6a17639410989a6a@news.frii.com>, David Fanning
<david@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:
>
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> David

Well, I thought it was going to be an unproductive friday afternoon
for me today but it isn't. I installed emacs from the fink distribution
(OSX) and then the standard IDLWAVE EMACS mode. Everything wen't
smooth (not a systematic experience for me when I enter the Unix world)
and voila, I have an editor that interacts with IDL and that looks very
nice. That feels good...
Cheers,
Bernard.

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sat, 14 Dec 2002 01:29:54 GMT

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Dear Dr. Turing--

David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> writes:

[...]

> I make up all my "facts" about RSI, but I can imagine

[...]

> Everyone I know (including every developer at RSI

> I ever knew) uses the IDLWAVE EMACS mode.

So, is this another one of your "facts" about RSI :-)

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 14 Dec 2002 04:39:28 GMT

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Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

> So, is this another one of your "facts" about RSI :-)

See, this is one of those occasions when you can't
tell if I'm "busting your chops or being sardonic." :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say that like any successful author,
I try not to let the facts get in the way of a good story. :-)

--

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Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [MKatz843](#) on Mon, 16 Dec 2002 03:16:56 GMT

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> I have asked BareBones about it, but IDL is such a low-volume product
> relative to their main market (HTML) that I don't think its ever gonna
> happen.

I love BEdit and I use it all the time for HTML and whatnot, but there'd be a slight hitch. Even if you got syntax coloring to work, it would still be great to have a "compile" button and an "execute" button in the text window, as in the IDL environment on 5.4 (& 5.5?). Plus there's that great feature that when there's a breakpoint or a crash, the editor opens up the proper file and takes you to the offending line. Would that be possible in BEdit?

I think I'm going to have to learn emacs over the holidays. vi won't cut it any longer.

M. Katz

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 16 Dec 2002 03:33:54 GMT

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M. Katz (MKatz843@onebox.com) writes:

> I think I'm going to have to learn emacs over the holidays. vi won't
> cut it any longer.

vi!? vi stopped cutting it in 1956, didn't it?

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [David Burrridge](#) on Mon, 16 Dec 2002 10:09:43 GMT

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Oh, beware David! Vi does not have users ... it has disciples!-) And anyhow, isn't the rule about time-taken-to-learn vs reluctance-to-change doubly relevant here?

Dave

--

"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1866f78c96a555df989a6d@news.frii.com...

> M. Katz (MKatz843@onebox.com) writes:

>

>> I think I'm going to have to learn emacs over the holidays. vi won't
>> cut it any longer.

>

> vi!? vi stopped cutting it in 1956, didn't it?

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> --

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David Burrridge

Burrridge Computing, 18 The Green South

Warborough, Oxon, OX10 7DN

England

Tel: +44 (0) 1865 858279, Email: davidb@burrridgecomputing.co.uk

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.

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Version: 6.0.404 / Virus Database: 228 - Release Date: 15/10/2002

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Mon, 16 Dec 2002 14:18:59 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>
> M. Katz (MKatz843@onebox.com) writes:
>
>> I think I'm going to have to learn emacs over the holidays. vi won't
>> cut it any longer.
>
> vi!? vi stopped cutting it in 1956, didn't it?

I didn't even learn vi until about 1980, and it's still my favorite editor. It's far too complex though; if I'd never learned it, I wouldn't bother starting now, and I wouldn't recommend it to new users. However, having learned to use it, I get much better results with it than I do with any other plain-text editor. I gave emacs a year and a half to convince me of it's merits; it was a relief for me when I finally went back to vi. It would be nice if it were mouse-aware, however.

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Mon, 16 Dec 2002 14:42:02 GMT

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In article <4a097d6a.0212151916.6e5a5565@posting.google.com>,
MKatz843@onebox.com (M. Katz) wrote:

> I love BBEdit and I use it all the time for HTML and whatnot, but
> there'd be a slight hitch. Even if you got syntax coloring to work, it
> would still be great to have a "compile" button and an "execute"
> button in the text window, as in the IDL environment on 5.4 (& 5.5?).
> Plus there's that great feature that when there's a breakpoint or a
> crash, the editor opens up the proper file and takes you to the
> offending line. Would _that_ be possible in BBEdit?

You can run shell scripts (or Applescripts) from inside BBEdit, but getting it to communicate with an already-running IDL process is beyond my meager Unix skills.

Ken

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?

Posted by [Carsten Dominik](#) on Tue, 17 Dec 2002 16:56:17 GMT

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>>>> > "BK" == Bernard Knaepen <bknaepen@ulb.ac.be> writes:

BK> Well, I thought it was going to be an unproductive friday afternoon

BK> for me today but it isn't. I installed emacs from the fink distribution
BK> (OSX) and then the standard IDLWAVE EMACS mode. Everything wen't
BK> smooth (not a systematic experience for me when I enter the Unix world)
BK> and voila, I have an editor that interacts with IDL and that looks very
BK> nice. That feels good...
BK> Cheers,
BK> Bernard.

Nice to hear.

Make sure to go to idlwave.org and download the online-help files
which are not part of emacs.

- Carsten

Subject: Re: OSX: syntax coloring?
Posted by [Carsten Dominik](#) on Tue, 17 Dec 2002 17:25:44 GMT
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>>>> > "DF" == David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> writes:

DF> Bernard Knaepen (bknaepen@ulb.ac.be) writes:
>> That's the only way? No built-in support?

DF> RSI has tried to get engineers to do it, but no one
DF> volunteered even when they doubled the salary offer.
DF> Believe me, it's painful to be shamed by JD and Carsten,
DF> and no one, including the fine folks at RSI, wants to go
DF> anywhere near this project. :-(

: -)

Well, on the other side: A while ago after I got my iBook, I did ask
RSI a to put me on the beta-tester distribution in order to check out
if IDLWAVE would work well under MacOSX. I did not get a reply to my
request - so I am not sure how much truth is in your nice story.

- Carsten
