
Subject: Re: IDL HELP Problem in IDLWAVE
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 27 Apr 2005 23:19:16 GMT
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On Mon, 25 Apr 2005 14:08:30 -0600, Sean Davis wrote:

> Hello
>
> I have a systematic problem with the IDL html help in IDLWAVE. Everytime I
> click on a procedure to open the html help in a Browser, the browser
> brings up the entry BEFORE the entry that I clicked on. ...For example, I
> click on the procedure PLOT, and the online help for the procedure PCOMP
> comes up in the browser.
>
> This is mostly just an annoyance, because I can always click the ">" button
> in the browser to go to the next online help entry. ...But does anyone have
> a clue as to why this would happen?

This happens if the version of the IDLWAVE HTML help files you have does not match the version of the scanned information found in the IDLWAVE file `idlw-rinfo.el'. Since they are downloaded separately, this can be a problem. It also means that none of the direct keyword-based help linking will work, only full routine help. The reason it is "one off" is that between versions, RSI adds routines, so that, e.g., C40.html was documenting CONVERT_COORD, but now documents CONTOUR.

You didn't mention which versions you have, but in general, the most current version of IDLWAVE + HTML help is for IDLv6.1, and older version of the HTML package would require "help downgrade kits" (essentially just a replacement idlw-rinfo.el file) to make sure the index of the help matches the HTML help package you have. See idlwave.org for these. If you don't know which version of the HTML files you have, look at the file `/usr/local/etc/idl_html_help/relnotes.html` (or wherever you put them).

There is no harm in using a new HTML help system with an old version of IDL; it may just be confusing when features are referenced that you don't have.

There is some hope that all this HTML help confusion is going to go away in a new version of IDL with a native HTML help system which IDLWAVE can leverage... stay tuned.

JD
