Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode)
Posted by Ben Panter on Mon, 26 Feb 2007 16:00:09 GMT
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Mirko wrote:
> Hello group,
>
> I have submitted a feature request to RSI for unicode support. They
> already have one request on file. I am hoping that by generating more
> noise from us, we can push this request up the priority queue.
>
> I would personally like to use Greek and other character sets to code
> mathematical formulae.
>
> I am guessing that our non-english speaking folks would also
> appreciate the convenience of using their native characters.
> Although, it may make IDL programs less shareable. I for one will not
> be able to review or modify a code written in any of the oriental or
> mid-eastern character sets.
>
> Mirko
>

Hi Mirko,

Is there much more to this than being able to give variables names like the \alpha symbol instead of just 'alpha'? Or coding variable names in a Cyrillic alphabet? I'm struggling to see the real need at the moment, but I've probably missed something key.

cheers,

Ben

--
Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.
Email false, http://www.benpanter.co.uk
or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode)
Posted by Lasse Clausen on Tue, 27 Feb 2007 13:24:50 GMT
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On 26 Feb, 16:00, Ben Panter <m...@privacy.net> wrote:

> Mirko wrote:
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>
> Ben
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> --
> Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.
> Email false,http://www.benpanter.co.uk
> or you could try ben at ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Mirko,

just to avoid confusion, you actually want to name variables using
greek symbols or do you only want to annotate axis (for example) with
gree letter. The latter is easily done with

```
!p.font=0
plot, indgen(3), ytitle='!7abcdefg!X'
```

the !7 switches to greek letters, !X back to the latin alphabet. If
you are more familiar with Tex, you might want to search for the idl
program "textoidl".

If you knew all the above and want to use greek symbols in idl program

as variable names, excuse me for wasting your time.

regards
lasse

Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode)
Posted by Lasse Clausen on Tue, 27 Feb 2007 13:28:23 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On 27 Feb, 13:24, "Lasse Clausen" <l...@lbnc.de> wrote:
> On 26 Feb, 16:00, Ben Panter <m...@privacy.net> wrote:
>
>
>
>> Mirko wrote:
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>
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>> Ben Panter, Edinburgh, UK.
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> the !7 switches to greek letters, !X back to the latin alphabet. If
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> program "textoidl".
>
> If you knew all the above and want to use greek symbols in idl program
> as variable names, excuse me for wasting your time.
>
> regards
> lasse

it has to be

!p.font=-1

sorry for that

cheers
lasse

Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode), GUI with Menu in Different Language
Posted by agarunaf on Thu, 01 Mar 2007 07:30:53 GMT
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Hi,

I need to Change the IDL menus to Japanese Laguase. The complete interface (GUI) to be Japanese. How to change, pl. help me in this anyone. Interface like Menu, Command button, List Box, Option Box, Input Textbox, label box and all the controls to be in Japanese language.
I am using English version of IDL 6.3

Regards,
Arun Kumar .G

Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode)
Posted by Mirko on Thu, 01 Mar 2007 16:08:30 GMT
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On Feb 27, 8:24 am, "Lasse Clausen" <l...@lbnc.de> wrote:
> On 26 Feb, 16:00, Ben Panter <m...@privacy.net> wrote:
>
>
>
>> Mirko wrote:
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This is a follow-up to both Ben's and Lasse's emails.

Having a program with a greek character alpha displayed instead of five characters is a matter of easthetics and convenience. We have been programming without greek characters for close to 50 years now. We can keep doing it that way. But in the past 50 years we have switched from machine to assembly, to procedural, and now to object ways of doing programming. This is one example of change of programming practice.

Some programs are transcriptions of mathematical formulae. It would be much easier to write them and debug them if the program notation followed the mathematical notation as close as possible.

And, also imagine doing math using multi-letter names for variables in the equations. I would not find it very appealing.

Mirko

Subject: Re: IDL support for international characters (unicode)
Posted by George N. White III on Sat, 10 Mar 2007 16:08:47 GMT
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On Thu, 1 Mar 2007, Mirko wrote:

> On Feb 27, 8:24 am, "Lasse Clausen" <l...@lbnc.de> wrote:

> [...]

> Having a program with a greek character alpha displayed instead of
> five characters is a matter of easthetics and convenience. We have
> been programming without greek characters for close to 50 years now.
> We can keep doing it that way. But in the past 50 years we have
> switched from machine to assembly, to procedural, and now to object
> ways of doing programming. This is one example of change of
> programming practice.

There are many examples where implementations had mistakes that would have been easier to recognize if the notation in the code and the documentation were more similar. One approach that has been used ("literate programming") relies on a source file that uses typesetting markup and can be processed to produce either a document or conventional program sources. Some such systems allow use of greek symbols in the program source, and replace them with conventional names when the sources are extracted. This has been been done for C and Fortran (the project, fweb, like many legacy Fortran codes, is, no longer being maintained).

> Some programs are transcriptions of mathematical formulae. It would
> be much easier to write them and debug them if the program notation
> followed the mathematical notation as close as possible.
>
> And, also imagine doing math using multi-letter names for variables in
> the equations. I would not find it very appealing.

I have used literate programming tools with IDL, but only in a form where the source fragments in the documentation are assembled into the actual source files when the document is formatted. See:

<http://www.cse.ohio-state.edu/~gurari/tpf/html/LitProg.html>

for a simple system based on TeX. This seems to be a good compromise between simplicity (so it doesn't require a big maintenance effort) and functionality.

--
George N. White III <aa056@chebucto.ns.ca>