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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [mankoff](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 01:41:27 GMT

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On Sep 27, 8:01 pm, full...@gmail.com wrote:

> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by /\* \*/,  
> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put ";" in front of every  
> line. Is there a better way?

Use emacs idlwave-mode and then select region, then CTRL-c + ;

-k.

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 01:55:26 GMT

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On Sep 27, 6:01 pm, full...@gmail.com wrote:

> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by /\* \*/,  
> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put ";" in front of every  
> line. Is there a better way?

There is no multi-line comment syntax in IDL. If you use the IDLDE,  
there is a feature to comment out selected lines.

Mike

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[www.michaelgalloy.com](http://www.michaelgalloy.com)

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [fullyu4](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 02:16:39 GMT

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On Sep 27, 6:41 pm, mankoff <mank...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Sep 27, 8:01 pm, full...@gmail.com wrote:  
>  
>> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by /\* \*/,  
>> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put ";" in front of every  
>> line. Is there a better way?

>  
> Use emacs idlwave-mode and then select region, then CTRL-c + ;  
>

> -k  
Hello,

Thank you very much. I've heard a lot of good thing about IDLWAVE, but unfortunately, I am used to use vim. Is there a alternative plug-in for vim or shall I force myself to start using emacs?

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 13:48:10 GMT

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fullyu4@gmail.com wrote:

> On Sep 27, 6:41 pm, mankoff <mank...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> On Sep 27, 8:01 pm, full...@gmail.com wrote:

>>

>>> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by /\* \*/,

>>> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put ";" in front of every

>>> line. Is there a better way?

>> Use emacs idlwave-mode and then select region, then CTRL-c + ;

>>

>> -k

> Hello,

>

> Thank you very much. I've heard a lot of good thing about IDLWAVE, but

> unfortunately, I am used to use vim. Is there a alternative plug-in

> for vim or shall I force myself to start using emacs?

This block commenting feature is almost ubiquitous on modern editors. If they can't already do it, they can be made to do so (e.g. I used nedit and it can now comment selected blocks for a variety of languages that require the "line-by-line" type of block comment).

I googled "vim block comment" and got the following (among others):

[http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script\\_id=473](http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script_id=473)

<http://notfaq.wordpress.com/2006/07/28/vim-comment-blocks-of-code/>

The first details how to set up vim to do it, the second appears to indicate it's already possible with the right combo of keystrokes.

cheers,

paulv

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [Jeff N.](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 14:37:52 GMT

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On Sep 27, 9:55 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> On Sep 27, 6:01 pm, full...@gmail.com wrote:  
>  
>> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by /\* \*/,  
>> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put ";" in front of every  
>> line. Is there a better way?  
>  
> There is no multi-line comment syntax in IDL. If you use the IDLDE,  
> there is a feature to comment out selected lines.  
>  
> Mike  
> --www.michaelgalloy.com

Does this feature have a keyboard shortcut? There isn't one listed beside the command in the menu, as there is for other menu commands, so i assume there isn't one. If there isn't, i wish there was :(

Jeff

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [R.G.Stockwell](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 16:40:10 GMT

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<fullyu4@gmail.com> wrote in message  
news:1190937705.321763.225700@r29g2000hsg.googlegroups.com.. .  
> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by /\* \*/,  
> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put ";" in front of every  
> line. Is there a better way?

Block comments have been mentioned (under the edit menu in the IDLDE). Also, many editors have "column mode" where you can select row 1, for multiple columns and paste in the ";" (ultra edit can do this).

Another way, it to programatically make a IF block.

```
dothispart = 1
```

```
if dothispart then begin
```

```
...  
endif
```

That is actually pretty handy to do, especially if you are in an exploratory mood looking through data. I also use this to switch between screen graphics, and postscript graphics for instance.

Cheers,  
bob

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [Marshall Perrin](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 17:06:19 GMT

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Paul van Delst <Paul.vanDelst@noaa.gov> wrote:

- > I googled "vim block comment" and got the following (among others):
- >
- > [http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script\\_id=473](http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script_id=473)
- > <http://notfaq.wordpress.com/2006/07/28/vim-comment-blocks-of-code/>
- >
- > The first details how to set up vim to do it, the second appears to indicate it's already
- > possible with the right combo of keystrokes.

Sure is. Once you've selected the block of text you want to comment out, just type `:s/^;/` and you're all set. Perfectly obvious, no? ;-)

- Marshall (loves vim's brevity, hates the learning curve)

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [Marshall Perrin](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 17:07:42 GMT

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mgalloy@gmail.com <mgalloy@gmail.com> wrote:

- > On Sep 27, 6:01 pm, full...@gmail.com wrote:
- >> As title. In C/C++, we can comment out many lines at once by `/* */`,
- >> but in IDL, it seems the only way is to put `;` in front of every
- >> line. Is there a better way?
- >
- > There is no multi-line comment syntax in IDL.

That said, often one can get away with wrapping an "if 0 then begin...endif" around the code in question. It's an ugly solution, but does work.

- Marshall

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 17:29:45 GMT

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Marshall Perrin wrote:

- > Paul van Delst <Paul.vanDelst@noaa.gov> wrote:
- >> I googled "vim block comment" and got the following (among others):
- >>
- >> [http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script\\_id=473](http://www.vim.org/scripts/script.php?script_id=473)
- >> <http://notfaq.wordpress.com/2006/07/28/vim-comment-blocks-of-code/>
- >>

>> The first details how to set up vim to do it, the second appears to indicate it's already  
>> possible with the right combo of keystrokes.  
>  
> Sure is. Once you've selected the block of text you want to comment  
> out, just type :s/^;/ and you're all set. Perfectly obvious, no? ;-)

I wonder how that compares with EMACS ( outside IDLWAVE mode) "CTRL-x r t ; RETURN" after selection... ;-)

Ciao,  
Paolo

>  
> - Marshall (loves vim's brevity, hates the learning curve)

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?  
Posted by [Mike\[2\]](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 23:49:58 GMT  
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On Sep 28, 10:37 am, "Jeff N." <jnett...@utk.edu> wrote:

> Does this feature have a keyboard shortcut? There isn't one listed  
> beside the command in the menu, as there is for other menu commands,  
> so i assume there isn't one. If there isn't, i wish there was :(

It is bound to C-;

I've never used it much - instead I use emacs's comment region (M-x comment-region). To uncomment, just use C-u M-x comment-region.

Mike

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?  
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Sat, 29 Sep 2007 01:24:08 GMT  
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On Fri, 28 Sep 2007 16:49:58 -0700, Mike wrote:

> On Sep 28, 10:37 am, "Jeff N." <jnett...@utk.edu> wrote:  
>  
>> Does this feature have a keyboard shortcut? There isn't one listed  
>> beside the command in the menu, as there is for other menu commands,  
>> so i assume there isn't one. If there isn't, i wish there was :(  
>  
> It is bound to C-;

>  
> I've never used it much - instead I use emacs's comment region (M-x  
> comment-region). To uncomment, just use C-u M-x comment-region.

I think he meant IDLDE, not IDLWAVE. Also, it's [C-c ;]. Another fun one is M-;, which in Emacs 22 will move you to a comment or create a new one in an intelligent way at the current line, or (un-)comment highlighted blocks. My favorite part is that this function is called `comment-dwim', for Do What I Mean.

JD

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Subject: Re: How to comment out large section of codes in IDL?  
Posted by [Mike\[2\]](#) on Mon, 01 Oct 2007 13:04:44 GMT  
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On Sep 28, 9:24 pm, JD Smith <jdsm...@as.arizona.edu> wrote:

> I think he meant IDLDE, not IDLWAVE.

Ah - yes - my chronic emacs infection is so bad that I never even thought of that!

> Also, it's [C-c ;]. Another fun one is M-;, which in Emacs  
> 22 will move you to a comment or create a new one in an  
> intelligent way at the current line, or (un-)comment highlighted  
> blocks. My favorite part is that this function is called  
> `comment-dwim', for Do What I Mean.

I'll have to read up on the new stuff in emacs 22. It seems like whatever I want to do, it has already been implemented in emacs!

Mike

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