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Subject: Another Nice Thing

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 15:00:58 GMT

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Folks,

Here is another thing I like about IDL 7.0. If I have Dynamic Help up, and I hit the question mark button that says "Show in External Window", then the window pops up full size on my second monitor! I don't know how it knows to do that, but I LIKE IT! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing

Posted by [Doug Edmundson](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 16:19:13 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,

>

> Here is another thing I like about IDL 7.0. If I have

> Dynamic Help up, and I hit the question mark button that

> says "Show in External Window", then the window pops up

> full size on my second monitor! I don't know how it knows

> to do that, but I LIKE IT! :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

Whew, I thought we'd get hammered some more! ;-) Actually, this newsgroup is great and a big \*thanks\* to everyone. Reading about the good, bad and ugly helps direct our efforts for the next release.

Cheers,

Doug (and colleagues)

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing  
Posted by [Conor](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 16:22:16 GMT  
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On Dec 7, 11:19 am, Doug Edmundson <do...@ittvis.com> wrote:

> David Fanning wrote:

>> Folks,

>

>> Here is another thing I like about IDL 7.0. If I have

>> Dynamic Help up, and I hit the question mark button that

>> says "Show in External Window", then the window pops up

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>> David

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> Whew, I thought we'd get hammered some more! ;-) Actually, this

> newsgroup is great and a big \*thanks\* to everyone. Reading about the

> good, bad and ugly helps direct our efforts for the next release.

>

> Cheers,

> Doug (and colleagues)

Yeah, well, Matlab is so great when I tell it to make a plot for me an  
extra monitor materializes on my desk and the plot appears on that!  
Ha! Oh wait, I don't use Matlab...

---

Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 16:30:46 GMT  
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Doug Edmundson writes:

> Whew, I thought we'd get hammered some more! ;-) Actually, this

> newsgroup is great and a big \*thanks\* to everyone. Reading about the

> good, bad and ugly helps direct our efforts for the next release.

Even I was getting tired of being so negative. ;-)

It helps to have it on a decent machine. I think we need  
to have a discussion about what is the minimum configuration  
necessary to run the darn thing though. And I realize this  
is a parochial concern, but does anyone really expect to see  
that ideal machine in training rooms any time soon? Have you  
tried this on machines in your training room? (Of course,

you teach ENVI so perhaps your machines are already beefed up.) I've got to buy a new laptop, but I am still concerned about the maximum resolution of most of the projectors I see in training and seminar rooms.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 16:31:57 GMT

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Conor writes:

- > Yeah, well, Matlab is so great when I tell it to make a plot for me an
- > extra monitor materializes on my desk and the plot appears on that!
- > Ha! Oh wait, I don't use Matlab...

Now, \*there\* is an idea I could live with!

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing

Posted by [Doug Edmundson](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 17:29:04 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Doug Edmundson writes:

>

- >> Whew, I thought we'd get hammered some more! ;-) Actually, this
- >> newsgroup is great and a big \*thanks\* to everyone. Reading about the
- >> good, bad and ugly helps direct our efforts for the next release.

>  
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> you teach ENVI so perhaps your machines are already beefed  
> up.) I've got to buy a new laptop, but I am still concerned  
> about the maximum resolution of most of the projectors I see  
> in training and seminar rooms.  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

I don't know about the training room machines, but you're probably right that they have good amounts of RAM given that ENVI manipulates large files. The IDL developer, QA and doc groups have a fairly wide range of hardware, at least in terms of CPU power, but I think we're all have at least 1 GB of RAM, which should be sufficient.

Cheers,  
Doug

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 08 Dec 2007 17:03:35 GMT  
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David Fanning writes:

> Here is another thing I like about IDL 7.0. If I have  
> Dynamic Help up, and I hit the question mark button that  
> says "Show in External Window", then the window pops up  
> full size on my second monitor! I don't know how it knows  
> to do that, but I LIKE IT! :-)

In case you can't tell, I am EXTREMELY confused by this interface.

Here is my problem now. I am writing some articles for my web page. I want to describe this neat new feature that I discovered, but I \*can't make it work anymore\*!!

OK, I got confused moving windows around, lost a few, etc.

The usual thing with me. So I hit the Reset Perspective button. Back to normal. Now I go under the Help menu and choose Dynamic Help. It comes up on the right hand side where it always does. Fine.

But now the button that used to say "Show in External Window" won't talk to me at all. I can't tell for sure, but it appears to be sulking. (You have to have experience with teenagers.) I click the button anyway. Nothing. Acts just like the 18-year old.

What in the world is going on here!?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing  
Posted by [ronn](#) on Sun, 09 Dec 2007 13:37:39 GMT  
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> But now the button that used to say "Show in External  
> Window" won't talk to me at all. I can't tell for sure,  
> but it appears to be sulking. (You have to have experience  
> with teenagers.) I click the button anyway. Nothing.  
> Acts just like the 18-year old.

>  
> What in the world is going on here!?

>  
Hi David,

I can't duplicate this on my machine but I am guessing that one of the Eclipse preference files may have something wrong in it. Try this, click and drag on the built in help window so that it becomes a detached view. (I run it like this all the time since then I can type ?congrid at the command line and have it show up in the help). Close the DE so that the preferences get updated. Bring it back up and type ? at the prompt just to make sure that the help window pops up where you left it. Now go and do the reset perspective and see if that fixes it.

Echoing one of your other posts I also wish help would start in index

mode. I have been digging through the Eclipse preference files trying to find some setting but no luck yet.

-Ronn Kling

KRS, inc.

email: r...@rlkling.com

Use these books to upgrade your IDL skills.

"Application Development with IDL"

"Calling C from IDL, Using DLM's to extend your IDL code". SECOND EDITION includes C++ and debugging! THIRD EDITION includes writing IDL object methods in C and C++!

"Power Graphics with IDL, A Beginner's Guide to Object Graphics"

"IDL primer" A concise introduction to IDL

"Navigating the IDL workbench" Working with the new IDL 7.0

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Subject: Re: Another Nice Thing

Posted by [mike.walker](#) on Mon, 10 Dec 2007 21:12:53 GMT

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On Dec 7, 9:19 am, Doug Edmundson <do...@ittvis.com> wrote:

> Whew, I thought we'd get hammered some more! ;-) Actually, this  
> newsgroup is great and a big \*thanks\* to everyone. Reading about the  
> good, bad and ugly helps direct our efforts for the next release.

>

> Cheers,

> Doug (and colleagues)

I for one appreciate the more... active role rsi/itt has displayed in this newsgroup. It's great to have a voice from (and to!) the company.

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