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Subject: problem with online help IDL v7.0  
Posted by [pruthvi](#) on Fri, 01 Aug 2008 11:08:40 GMT  
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Hello!

I have recently switched to linux (Ubuntu 8.0) and installed IDL(v7.0) using all default settings. I am experiencing following problem with help system.

whenever I seek help using command "?" or click on menu "help-> Help Content", IDL opens firefox but only error page displayed stating "while trying to retrieve the URL: http://127.0.0.1: ...connection refused". But if I start idlde with super user privilege, help is displayed normally.

It appears to me more a linux problem than IDL problem, but for me it is happening while using IDL and in case anyone has experienced similar problem before, can throw light on it.

Thanking you in advance

PV

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Subject: Re: problem with online help IDL v7.0  
Posted by [George White](#) on Sat, 09 Aug 2008 18:50:04 GMT  
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On Fri, 1 Aug 2008, pruthvi wrote:

> I have recently switched to linux (Ubuntu 8.0) and installed IDL(v7.0)  
> using all default settings. I am experiencing following problem with  
> help system.  
>  
> whenever I seek help using command "?" or click on menu "help-> Help  
> Content", IDL opens firefox but only error page displayed stating  
> "while trying to retrieve the URL: http://127.0.0.1: ...connection  
> refused". But if I start idlde with super user privilege, help is  
> displayed normally.  
>  
> It appears to me more a linux problem than IDL problem, but for me it  
> is happening while using IDL and in case anyone has experienced similar  
> problem before, can throw light on it.

I have the same problem on MacOSX (but not linux!). IDL is now using the Eclipse help system, which uses a small web server. In my case the command to start the web server fails unless it is run with root/admin

privileges.

You can read about the help system at:

< <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/opensource/library/os-eche lp/>>.

I have also seen reports of this problem from Eclipse users on real unix, but haven't had time to track down the solution.

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George White <aa056@chebucto.ns.ca> <gnw3@acm.org>  
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Subject: Re: problem with online help IDL v7.0  
Posted by [pruthvi](#) on Wed, 10 Sep 2008 10:20:16 GMT  
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On Aug 1, 4:08 pm, pruthvi <pruthvi.vall...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hello!  
>  
> I have recently switched to linux (Ubuntu 8.0) and installed IDL(v7.0)  
> using all default settings. I am experiencing following problem with  
> help system.  
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> It appears to me more a linux problem than IDL problem, but for me it  
> is happening while using IDL and in case anyone has experined similar  
> problem before, can throw light on it.  
>  
> Thanking you in advance  
>  
> PV

Today I found solution to this problem accidentally. I have one instant messaging application named "pidgin" on my computer. Today I changed the proxy settings for this application from manual configuration to direct internet connection. Subsequently, when I ran IDLDE, it started showing help in browser properly. To confirm that this was really due to change in PIDGIN's network settings, I changed back the proxy setting of PIDGIN from "direct internet connection" to "manual". This again stopped IDLDE from showing help and started showing "connection refused" error message.

It would be worth mentioning that all the while my browser (Firefox 3.) used option "System proxy" and never had problem in displaying web-page. My system proxy are set to relevant proxy setting for my department. It appears to me as though some configuration file is common between PIDGIN and IDLDE but don't know which one.

Hope this is helpful to someone.

PV

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