
Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 still unstable

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2011 15:46:07 GMT

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alx writes:

- > I am running both 32 and 64 bits versions of IDL 8.1 under various,
- > fully updated MS-Windows OS.
- > I wonder whether I am the only user to face this kind of problem !

I have been using IDL 8.1 pretty much all day long for over two weeks now, teaching IDL classes every day, all day. I think it has probably crashed no more than 2-3 times. Today, for example, it crashed when I said "Help, a". I don't know why! :-)

In general, it has been reasonably stable. A LOT more stable than IDL 8.0, that's for sure, although I have completely abandoned writing main-level programs in IDL for the moment, because that part of IDL 8.1 is completely broken.

But I will say this about the IDL Workbench. If you put 45 people in a room that could maybe hold 20, all with laptops and none with any IDL experience, and you try to add, say, the Coyote Library as a project and get the Coyote directory on the IDL path, it is AMAZING how many possible ways there are to do this incorrectly!

It has taken me most of a week to get this sorted out, let alone teach anyone how to write an IDL program! This is all made considerably more difficult by having only three power cords in the entire room, all drawing about 50 amps over the recommended power rating. God help us if someone comes in from the rain (it's the rainy season in Addis Ababa) and bumps one of these electrical structures. We will all be electrocuted!

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 still unstable
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:16:44 GMT
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On 6/27/11 9:46 AM, David Fanning wrote:

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> completely broken.

It seems to me that the 8.1 Workbench is more stable than 8.0, but definitely not stable enough for me to use (at least on Mac). If I can get it to launch, it usually works for me, but starting up is a 50/50 shot at best. It seems to be related to available memory and I can usually get it to start if I quit some other applications, but it's not guaranteed.

I have also had some weird issues with main-level programs, but I can't seem to remember the details.

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

www.michaelgalloy.com

Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>

Research Mathematician

Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 still unstable

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2011 17:50:19 GMT

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In article <luaadd\$zf7\$1@dont-email.me>,
Michael Galloy <mgalloy@gmail.com> wrote:

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> guaranteed.

Every now and then I think of giving up my antiquated, terminal-window,
X-Windows, and standalone editor approach and trying the modern,
gee-whiz, integrated development environment thingy.

And then I see a bunch of postings like this thread.

I will hold off on using the Workbench in classes. :-)

Cheers, Ken

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 still unstable

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Thu, 30 Jun 2011 04:03:31 GMT

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On Monday, June 27, 2011 1:50:19 PM UTC-4, Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:

> In article <luaadd\$zf7\$1...@dont-email.me>,
> Michael Galloy <mga...@gmail.com> wrote:
>

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>
> I will hold off on using the Workbench in classes. :-)

>
> Cheers, Ken

MacVim is my IDE. ;-)

-Jeremy.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 still unstable

Posted by [vto](#) on Thu, 30 Jun 2011 15:18:41 GMT

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On Jun 27, 12:16 pm, Michael Galloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On 6/27/11 9:46 AM, David Fanning wrote:

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>
> Mike
> --
> Michael Galloy www.michaelgalloy.com
> Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>
> Research Mathematician
> Tech-X Corporation

I'm using IDI 8.1 on a Mac as well. The IDLDE has been up and running for over a month now. However, it does not mean it is more stable. It simply has a number of annoyances. Currently, my (forward) "delete" button has quit functioning (the backwards delete button still works). This is the typical sign that IDL soon becomes unresponsive, meaning that the command line will quit working as well. It does not crash, only, no commands will be executed. Only way to solve it is to restart IDL.

I think part of the problem is the underlying JAVA. I'm running other JAVA programs as well and sometimes there seems to be some interaction between these JAVA programs with IDL, most likely memory crunch,- I only got 32 GB and still run out of it sometimes.

These are my few cents,

Volker

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 still unstable
Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Thu, 30 Jun 2011 18:12:51 GMT
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I use MacVim, Terminal, and Finder, tiled appropriately on multiple monitors. Not fancy perhaps, but **very** stable.
