
Subject: Re: Using IDLdoc to format documentation
Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2013 23:20:03 GMT
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Perhaps Mike (or someone else) can offer a different/better solution, but I usually do something like this:

```
; :Returns:
;   One of three possible values are returned::
;   -1 IF xUTC1 < xUTC2
;   0 IF xUTC1 == XUTC2
;   1 IF xUTC1 > XUTC2
```

Similarly,

```
; :History:
;   Modification history::
;   21 Mar 2007 D. A. Gell Initial coding
;   16 Apr 2007 D. A. Gell correct variable usage
;   7 Aug 2007 D. A. Gell added Kepler (dust) ram direction
```

On Tuesday, January 15, 2013 3:09:57 PM UTC-6, David Gell wrote:

> I've got a couple of questions about using idldoc to format file documentation. First, I've a function that can return a status code. The header is formatted as follows:

```
>
>
>
> ; :RETURNS:
>
> ; -1 IF xUTC1 < xUTC2
>
> ; 0 IF xUTC1 == XUTC2
>
> ; 1 IF xUTC1 > XUTC2
>
>
>
> The idldoc output concatenates the 3 lines:
```

```
> Return Value
```

```
> -1 IF xUTC1 < xUTC2 0 IF xUTC1 == XUTC2 1 IF xUTC1 > XUTC2
```

```
>
>
> Is there a way to insure that the line breaks are maintained.
```

On 1/15/13 4:20 PM, Phillip Bitzer wrote:

> Perhaps Mike (or someone else) can offer a different/better
> solution, but I usually do something like this:

```
>  
> ; :Returns:  
> ;   One of three possible values are returned::  
> ;   -1 IF xUTC1 < xUTC2  
> ;    0 IF xUTC1 == xUTC2  
> ;    1 IF xUTC1 > xUTC2
```

> Similarly,

```
>  
> ; :History:  
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> ;   7 Aug 2007 D. A. Gell added Kepler (dust) ram direction
```

Yes, I do things like that too, but find it awkward. I don't have a good solution to this right now.

I would like to add itemized and enumerated lists to IDLdoc rst markup with syntax something like:

```
; :Returns:  
;   One of three possible values are returned:  
;  
;   * -1 if xUTC1 < xUTC2  
;   *  0 if xUTC1 == xUTC2  
;   *  1 if xUTC1 > xUTC2
```

and

```
; :History:  
;   * 21 Mar 2007 D. A. Gell Initial coding  
;   * 16 Apr 2007 D. A. Gell correct variable usage  
;   * 7 Aug 2007 D. A. Gell added Kepler (dust) ram direction
```

These would make simple bullet item lists (note that this would not align the comparison operators in the first example).

Enumerated lists would look like:

```
; :Returns:  
;   One of three possible values are returned:
```

```
;
;
; 1. -1 if xUTC1 < xUTC2
; 2. 0 if xUTC1 == xUTC2
; 3. 1 if xUTC1 > xUTC2
```

or

```
; :Returns:
; One of three possible values are returned:
;
; #. -1 if xUTC1 < xUTC2
; #. 0 if xUTC1 == xUTC2
; #. 1 if xUTC1 > xUTC2
```

Any thoughts?

Mike

--

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)
Research Mathematician
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: Using IDLdoc to format documentation
Posted by [David Gell](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2013 19:12:38 GMT
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Thanks for the information. It seems like we all use the same work-around. The enumerated lists that Mike suggests would be helpful. I can think of a number of places that bullet lists and numeric lists could be used.

Subject: Re: Using IDLdoc to format documentation
Posted by _____ on Thu, 17 Jan 2013 09:30:08 GMT
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Den onsdagen den 16:e januari 2013 kl. 20:12:38 UTC+1 skrev David Gell:
> Thanks for the information. It seems like we all use the same work-around. The enumerated lists that Mike suggests would be helpful. I can think of a number of places that bullet lists and numeric lists could be used.

I have a different workaround, I just insert empty (comment) lines where I want line breaks.

Like this:

```
; :RETURNS:
;
; -1 IF xUTC1 < xUTC2
;
; 0 IF xUTC1 == XUTC2
;
; 1 IF xUTC1 > XUTC2
;
```

Proper lists would sure be useful, though.

Subject: Re: Using IDLdoc to format documentation
Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2013 23:36:29 GMT
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> Any thoughts?

I just recently started using IDLdoc and love it. I have been looking for something like it for my MatLab code. Seems like IDLdoc could work if I could just change the comment character to "%". Can there be a keyword for that?

Bullets would be good. Writing "1.", "2.", etc. has been easy enough for numerated lists. Especially for fixed-width fonts.

Subject: Re: Using IDLdoc to format documentation
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Sun, 20 Jan 2013 18:21:34 GMT
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On 1/18/13 4:36 pm, Matthew Argall wrote:

>> Any thoughts?

>

> I just recently started using IDLdoc and love it. I have been looking
> for something like it for my MatLab code. Seems like IDLdoc could
> work if I could just change the comment character to "%". Can there
> be a keyword for that?

>

> Bullets would be good. Writing "1.", "2.", etc. has been easy enough
> for numerated lists. Especially for fixed-width fonts.

>

There are a lot of IDL specific issues in IDLdoc besides the comment character. If you want to give it a try, take a look at `docparprofileparser__define.pro.`, particularly the `_parseLines` method. There are a couple places where you can replace '+' and ';' with the

appropriate characters for MATLAB. You will also have to change it from looking for .pro files to looking to for MATLAB's extension.

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

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Research Mathematician

Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: Using IDLdoc to format documentation
Posted by [Ajean](#) on Tue, 22 Jan 2013 20:57:08 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Tuesday, January 15, 2013 3:52:07 PM UTC-8, Mike Galloy wrote:

> On 1/15/13 4:20 PM, Phillip Bitzer wrote:

>

>> Perhaps Mike (or someone else) can offer a different/better

>

>> solution, but I usually do something like this:

>

>>

>

>> ; :Returns:

>

>> ; One of three possible values are returned::

>

>> ; -1 IF xUTC1 < xUTC2

>

>> ; 0 IF xUTC1 == XUTC2

>

>> ; 1 IF xUTC1 > XUTC2

>

>>

>

>> Similarly,

>

>>

>

>> ; :History:

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>> ; 16 Apr 2007 D. A. Gell correct variable usage

```

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> ; * -1 if xUTC1 < xUTC2
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> align the comparison operators in the first example).

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>
> ; #. -1 if xUTC1 < xUTC2
>
> ; #. 0 if xUTC1 == xUTC2
>
> ; #. 1 if xUTC1 > xUTC2
>
>
>
> Any thoughts?
>
>
>
> Mike
>
> --
>
> Michael Galloy
```

>
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>
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This would be lovely, actually ... there are several places I (like many others) am using :: in a funny way to make this happen. One more vote for this functionality!
