Subject: Re: HELP adding entries to MAN_PROC
Posted by oet on Thu, 04 Feb 1993 10:23:02 GMT
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In article <107906@netnews.upenn.edu> mark@ginger.biophys.upenn.edu (Mark Elliott) writes:
>
>
>
> DOES ANYONE KNOW HOW TO ADD ENTRIES TO IDL'S ON LINE HELP PROGRAM,
MAN_PROC?
>
>
> We have a created a directory $IDL/ourlib containing IDL programs used
> by our group. I would like to add the DOC_LIBRARY descriptions of these files to
> MAN_PROC. I have determined that MAN_PROC calls MP_WIDGETS, which scans the
> $IDL/help directory for "*.help" files. Each ".help" file generates a category
> of help topics in the widget. The format of these files is clear, but not trivial
> to generate.
> Is there a program in the IDL distribution which scans a directory and
> constructs a ".help" file? This appears to be all I would need to add descriptions
> of our "home-made" programs to the HELP widget.
>
> Any response greatly appreciated.
>
 Try mk_library_help:

 EXAMPLE:

 IDL> mk_library_help, !DIR+'/lib/userlib',!DIR+'/help/test.help'

 IDL> ?

 You will now have description of all procedures in the subdir userlib
 on the button 'test'.

--
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Subject: Re: HELP adding entries to MAN_PROC
Posted by knight on Thu, 04 Feb 1993 21:51:31 GMT
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In article <1kqqq6INN4h3@maz4.sma.ch>, oet@sma.ch (Thomas Oettli) writes:
|> In article <107906@netnews.upenn.edu> mark@ginger.biophys.upenn.edu (Mark Elliott) writes:
|> >
|> > DOES ANYONE KNOW HOW TO ADD ENTRIES TO IDL'S ON LINE HELP PROGRAM, MAN_PROC?
 ...(omitted text)...
|> >
|> Try mk_library_help:
|>
|> EXAMPLE:
|>
|>   IDL> mk_library_help, !DIR+'/lib/userlib',!DIR+'/help/test.help'
|>
|>   IDL> ?
|>
|> You will now have description of all procedures in the subdir userlib
|> on the button 'test'.
|>

I use this method also, and it helps the novice as well as the expert, who
wants to review a routine's action or parameter list. In addition, I build
into each routine a /help keyword to print its header. For example,

 myroutine,/help

produces the header via the doc_library routine. The only things needed in the
code are:

 pro myroutine,help=help,...
 ...
 if keyword_set(help) then begin & doc_library,'myroutine' & return & endif
 ...

Fred
--
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