
Subject: Re: IDL 5.0.2 editor

Posted by [Kevin Ivory](#) on Thu, 15 Jan 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Nando Iavarone wrote:

- > I have a unix version and a pc version of IDL 5.
- > unix version's editor don't handle several colour to differentiate
- > variable, key-word etc,
- > unlike pc version.
- > Are there some problem on my configuration?

The unix version simply doesn't do it. From the IDL Online Help:

Contents -> Using IDL -> IDL for Motif -> The IDL for Motif Interface
-> Using External Editors

Files in Editor windows are used mainly for rudimentary editing and debugging, and do not offer any sophisticated editing features. If you wish to use more sophisticated editing features, choose one of the external editors offered in the Macros menu.

The Macros menu default items are the Unix standard editors vi and emacs (or XEmacs, a highly sophisticated editor from the Free Software Foundation). Emacs also supports an IDL language mode (idl-mode), which offers chroma (or font) highlighting of the IDL language construct, and many other editing features. Please consult the IDL FAQ for the latest version of idl-mode (idl.el) and its method of installation. The IDL FAQ links are available on the Research Systems Web Site at <http://www.rsinc.com/>.

IDLDE always checks if the current file has been externally modified before using it. If a file was modified with an external editor, IDLDE notifies you, and asks you to reload the file before using it (you can also use the "Revert to Saved" option from the File menu to reload the file).

Some comments:

- * XEmacs is not from the Free Software Foundation, GNU Emacs is.
- * The FAQ is at http://www2.sd.cybernex.net/~mgs/idl_faq.html
- * You will find links to the IDL mode for Emacs at:
http://www.mpae.gwdg.de/mpae_RZ/software/idl/

Best regards

Kevin

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