
Subject: Re: IDL without X on Linux

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 16:20:06 GMT

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Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> can I start IDL on Linux without an X server available? I frequently run
> IDL on a Linux machine remotely, logged on from a Windows machine. If
> the Windows machine doesn't run an X server at that moment, IDL won't
> start ("X connection to localhost:11.0 broken (explicit kill or server
> shutdown)").
>
> I know I somehow can run (non-interactive) IDL programs from a cronjob,
> as long as they don't involve windows.
>
> I found the section "Command Line Options for IDL Startup" in the help
> file, but it doesn't mention anything :-(.
>
> Thanks,
> Benjamin

It is sometimes useful to run your IDL programs, graphics and all, even when you don't have an X connection. For this purpose, the Xvfb (X virtual frame buffer) utility is incredibly handy:

<http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=2382>

If you want to run IDL graphics programs in the background, Xvfb is highly recommended.

Cheers,

Liam.

Practical IDL Programming

<http://www.gumley.com/>
