
Subject: Re: if there is a command "clear log" in IDLWAVE like "Ctrl+Y" in Windows
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 24 Aug 2005 18:04:35 GMT

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On Wed, 24 Aug 2005 01:50:45 -0700, xuwd9397 wrote:

> I am a new user of IDLwave under redhat, I don't know if there is a
> shortcut command to clear log like "ctrl+Y" in IDLDE under windows, any
> help will be appreciated.

Not an explicit one, but you can delete any portion of the command log just like editing a normal Emacs buffer. C-x h C-w will zap the whole buffer (beware of read-only prompt if you have that set). With comint (the shell mode which underlies IDLWAVE Shell), you can do many more advanced things, like specifying a maximum number of output lines to keep, with (in your .emacs):

```
(add-hook 'comint-output-filter-functions 'comint-truncate-buffer)
```

This will keep the buffer no longer than `comint-buffer-maximum-size', truncating from the top. You can customize this variable -- it defaults to 1024 lines.

You can of course also do anything else you could do with a normal Emacs buffer with the command log, like save it to file (C-x C-w) to keep a record of your input/output, search through it for a particular string or regexp (C-r or M-C-r), etc. Most of the commands listed for regular Shell mode work just fine:

http://www.gnu.org/software/emacs/manual/html_node/Shell-Mode.html

Aside from the multitude of Emacs editing commands, Comint offers many more useful features for interacting with the IDL shell. E.g. to paste any previous input to the current input line, use RET or middle click with the cursor on any old input. To open a list of the command history in a separate frame, use C-c C-l (middle click or return in that window to paste a command to the current command line). To search via regexp through the previous input, try M-r.

On a related note, I strongly encourage you turn on show-paren-mode, like this (in your .emacs):

```
(show-paren-mode)
```

Editing deeply nested structures/arrays in the Shell (or an IDLWAVE buffer, for that matter), becomes *much* more enjoyable. Give it a try, you'll see what I mean.

