Subject: Re: IDL has problem with X windows on OS X 10.4
Posted by swisswuff on Mon, 18 Sep 2006 08:25:51 GMT
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IDL is not a true "Mac" standalone application.

What you can double-click from Finder is an application launcher, that will try to run the idlde application under X11.

Now, not all of these launchers always work. I have seen such launcher-applications fail under various Linuxes, under Gnome or KDE, and also under CDE on AIX, particularly in conjunction with IDL, but sometimes with other software.

So you may be looking at a problem that concerns "application launchers" more generally, rather than a particular OS X or X11 problem.

You may want to try to not start IDL as standalone application, but directly from within X11. I usually do it like that and do not get any particular errors.

Here is what I'd do:

- start X11

- pull down the Applications > Customize Menu... command

- click the "Add" button

- double click into the newly created empty row under "menu name",
  and enter something sensible, such as "IDL 6.3"

- double click into the newly created empty row under "command",
  and put the pathname to the application which is effectively started,

  i.e. 'idlde'. Typically, that path will be as follows, but make sure you
  really get that right:

    /Applications/rsi/idl_6.3/bin/idlde

If you then want to launch IDL, you'd first start X11, and pull down the IDL command from the Applications menu.

I'd be surprised if you'd still get that error with this type of application starting?