
Subject: Re: New Eclipse-based IDE

Posted by [saveio](#) on Tue, 05 Dec 2006 15:31:18 GMT

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"Richard G. French" <rfrench@wellesley.edu> writes:

> I've been stymied several times in trying to get plain emacs (not xemacs)
> running under OSX, but I just tracked down
> <http://homepage.mac.com/zenitani/emacs-e.html>
> which has a drag and install version (GNU Emacs 22.0.90.1) that seems to
> work and it has IDLWAVE installed. Maybe this time I can actually learn to
> use this lauded interface between IDL and emacs - it will require that I
> learn emacs first (I am a vi fan). Suggestions for easy tutorials?

I've the vi commands are completely ingrained in your muscle memory, emacs can seem a bear. But you can look at things like viper-mode. It basically puts vim key commands on top of emacs.

The most frustrating and most efficient way get a start with emacs is "C-h t" Control-h then t. It starts the tutorial. It's slow and painful, like trying to get to the corner market on a unicycle when you already have, and know how to ride a bicycle. But it's be worth it. The only other command to know is 'M-x apropos' that'll let you learn everything else you need.

The *nix idlde is so poor, I can say for certain that without idlwave I would have long ago given up IDL. And with 15+ years of emacs (and a complete devotee), I suspect I won't be giving up idlwave for eclipse. Of course, with the way they're always polishing up their direct graphics fonts, and keeping up with their mapping libraries, ITT/RSI don't want dinosaurs like me anyway.

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