
Subject: Re: nicing idl at startup from idlwave
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 22 Jan 2007 17:22:50 GMT
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On Mon, 22 Jan 2007 10:00:30 -0600, Christopher Thom wrote:

> Hi gang,
>
> A quick question -- does anyone know how to start idl from idlwave with a
> lower process priority? I tried setting idlwave-shell-explicit-file-name
> to something like "nice -5 idl" without any success. Looks like this needs
> to be the filename only, I presume since idl is started without recourse
> to the shell.

Probably the easiest is to make a shell script "niceidl" and reference that directly in shell-explicit-filename. renice also could do the trick post-facto, and a little elisp could make it much easier to use. Stick this in your .emacs:

```
(defun renice-idl (&optional priority)
  (interactive "NIDL Priority (nice): ")
  (if (idlwave-shell-is-running)
      (shell-command
        (format "renice %d -p %d"
              priority
              (process-id (get-buffer-process (idlwave-shell-buffer))))))
      (idlwave-shell-define-key-both [f9] 'renice-idl))
```

Then hitting f9 will prompt for a nice value to set the IDL process to. Note that you can only increase 'nice' on most systems (from 0-20). If you really want the same nice value every time you start IDLWAVE, you can:

```
(add-hook 'idlwave-shell-mode-hook (lambda () (renice-idl 5)))
```

JD
