Subject: Re: Remotely running IDL on a Mac using X11
Posted by Patrick V. Ford on Thu, 18 Dec 2008 20:37:00 GMT

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On Dec 18, 7:41 am, "T.H." <timhoagl...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Dec 17, 10:33 pm, "pfo...@bcm.tmc.edu" <pf...@bcm.tmc.edu> wrote:
>
>
>
>> On Dec 17, 7:30 am, Jeremy Bailin <astroco...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>> On Dec 16, 9:57 pm, "pfo...@bcm.tmc.edu" <pf...@bcm.tmc.edu> wrote:
>
>>>> Greetings,
>
>>>> I am (occasionally) using IDL on a MacOS X 10.5.6, and I want to set
>>>> it up so a person I am collaborating with can access my Mac, which is
>>>> considerably more powerful than his PC laptop. I believe I have solved
>>>> the issues with port forwarding through my firewall/vpn box and
>>>> getting the Mac configured to accept the ssh –X logins.
>
>>>> Not being a unix person, I am now at a point where I can open a remote
>>>> (severe) X11 shell and enter CLI commands, but I don't know how to
>>>> open/run IDL from the X11 shell and see the GUI. Some of this may be
>>>> due to paths being needed to be set.
>
>>>> I would greatly appreciate advice on how to get this functioning. It
>>>> is probably simple once I know.
>
>>>> Thanks
>
>>>> Patrick Ford, M.D.
>>>> Pfo...@bcm.tmc.edu
>
>>> If IDL is installed in /Applications/itt/idl, then make sure that /
>>> Applications/itt/idl/bin is in your path, and type:
>
>>> idlde
>
>>> (you can do "echo $PATH" to see what the path looks like... if it's
>>> not there, then add it with "export PATH=$PATH:/Applications/itt/idl/
>>> bin" if you're using a Bourne-style shell like sh or bash or "setenv
>>> PATH $PATH:/Applications/itt/idl/bin" if you're using a C-shell style
>>> shell like csh or tcsh)
>
>>> -Jeremy.
>
>> The path made it work on the local machine. Over my LAN, when I logged

>> in using ssh -X or ssh -Y, I got the following error message when I
>> typed in idlde:
>
>> _RegisterApplication(), FAILED TO establish the default connection to
>> the Window Server, _CGSDeaultConnection() is NULL.
>
>> Below is what my ssh_config file looks like. Do I need to change it?
>
>> # $OpenBSD: ssh_config,v 1.22 2006/05/29 12:56:33 dtucker Exp $
>
>> # This is the ssh client system-wide configuration file. See
>> # ssh_config(5) for more information. This file provides defaults for
>> # users, and the values can be changed in per-user configuration files
>> # or on the command line.
>
>> # Configuration data is parsed as follows:
>> # 1. command line options
>> # 2. user-specific file
>> # 3. system-wide file
>> # Any configuration value is only changed the first time it is set.
>> # Thus, host-specific definitions should be at the beginning of the
>> # configuration file, and defaults at the end.
>
>> # Site-wide defaults for some commonly used options. For a
>> comprehensive
>> # list of available options, their meanings and defaults, please see
>> the
>> # ssh_config(5) man page.
>
>> # Host *
>> #   ForwardAgent no
>>   ForwardX11 yes
>> #   RhostsRSAAuthentication no
>> #   RSAAuthentication yes
>> #   PasswordAuthentication yes
>> #   HostbasedAuthentication no
>> #   GSSAPIAuthentication no
>> #   GSSAPIDelegateCredentials no
>> #   GSSAPIKeyExchange no
>> #   GSSAPITrustDNS no
>> #   BatchMode no
>> #   CheckHostIP yes
>> #   AddressFamily any
>> #   ConnectTimeout 0
>> #   StrictHostKeyChecking ask
>> #   IdentityFile ~/.ssh/identity
>> #   IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa
>> #   IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_dsa

>> # Port 22
>> # Protocol 2,1
>> # Cipher 3des
>> # Ciphers aes128-cbc,3des-cbc,blowfish-cbc,cast128-
>> cbc,arcfour,aes192-cbc,aes256-cbc
>> # EscapeChar ~
>> # Tunnel no
>> # TunnelDevice any:any
>> # PermitLocalCommand no
>
>> Thanks
>
>> pf
>
> It looks like X11 is turned on on the server side but it also needs to
> be turned on on the client side. Does the Windows PC you are trying
> to connect from have an X-server application installed and running?
> For example, I always use Xming. Start it before connecting to the
> remote machine.

Below is information I received from RSI. I have not had the
opportunity to try it out yet, so I cannot verify that it works.

PF
_____
Hey Patrick,

Yes, you should be able to run IDL this way, but is will only work in
command line mode for IDL 7.0.
Typically the error you are receiving is caused because you need to
use
X forwarding with IDL so that it can make use of the X windowing
system.
To do this you would want to use the -X switch like so:

ssh -X username@x.x.x.x

Of course changing the x's to the IP address. Then once you are
connected, open a second x11 terminal and type:
xhost +

Once logged into the machine you may also have to set up the DISPLAY
environment variable. On a bash shell you would type (in the first
terminal that you ssh-ed with):
export DISPLAY=x.x.x.x:0.0
But try it without doing this first because if you forget to set it
back
to DISPLAY=:0.0 then when you try to use it locally, your X windows

may
not display.
Or you could set up a user account for him on your machine, that way the
DISPLAY variable would only be active in his user account.

The other alternative is to use a VPN connection. Google that and you can find free clients for it. This allows you to have a remote desktop
connection which would allow him to work as if he were sitting at your machine, full GUI and all, then he could use the IDL workbench.

Sincerely,
Josh Elliott
Technical Support Engineer

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