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Subject: Readline and/or easy command line history access

Posted by [Keflavich](#) on Mon, 27 Apr 2009 02:09:16 GMT

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Hi IDL folks,

I've asked a few experts but never received a satisfactory answer. Is there any sort of readline support in IDL more advanced than a simple command history? I can hit 'up' at the command line to retrieve old commands, but this is tedious and sometimes difficult in large interactive sessions. On the bash command line and in GNU-readline supporting interfaces (e.g. python), it's possible to do things like type the first few characters of a command and use 'up' to scroll through commands in history that begin with those characters.

On the bash command line, <control-r>, or 'reverse-i-search', is approximately equivalent.

The problem is that I use a lot of commands that are rather long - e.g. plot commands to subsets of structs - and would prefer not to retype them too often. Also, I often use multi-line commands for procedures and functions that require a lot of keyword inputs, and those are very painful to scroll through.

So, any tips would be appreciated,

Thanks,

Adam

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