
Subject: IDL Python Bridge

Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Thu, 04 Feb 2016 19:47:13 GMT

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Before I chase the rabbit down the hole, I'm hoping someone else has some experience in getting this to work.

I am unable to get the IDL-Python bridge up and running on a Mac (OS 10.9.5, for completeness). I am using Anaconda and IDL 8.5. Let me check my Python install, as in the Exelis, er Harris, installation directions (<https://www.exelisvis.com/docs/python.html> and <http://www.exelisvis.com/Support/HelpArticlesDetail/TabId/219/ArtMID/900/ArticleID/14600/Using-the-IDL-Python-Bridge-on-Mac.aspx>):

```
>>> import sys
>>> sys.version
'2.7.11 |Anaconda 2.4.1 (x86_64)| (default, Dec 6 2015, 18:57:58) \n[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5577)]'
```

Before setting any variables, I'll check my python version at the command line too:

```
$ python --version
```

```
Python 2.7.11 :: Anaconda 2.4.1 (x86_64)
```

and:

```
$ which python
```

```
~/anaconda/bin/python
```

And for kicks and giggles, try the bridge anyway:

```
IDL> >>>
```

```
>>> import sys
```

```
% Loaded DLM: PYTHON27.
```

```
ImportError: numpy.core.multiarray failed to import
```

```
Segmentation fault: 11
```

and I get dumped back to the command line.

Not surprising it doesn't work - I didn't follow the installation directions. So, let me set the paths as specified. I'm working with a bash shell, so I'll be exporting. No big deal. (One caveat, it seems Anaconda has already added itself to my PATH, so no need to do it again.)

Source my bash profile, echo all the paths, and everything seems to be there. So, let's try the bridge again:

```
IDL> >>>
```

```
>>> import sys
```

```
% Loaded DLM: PYTHON27.
```

```
ImportError: numpy.core.multiarray failed to import
```

```
Segmentation fault: 11
```

and back to the command line. Again.

Hmm. Let's check that version now:

```
python --version
```

```
Python 2.7.5
```

Er, it seems I've pointed away from the Anaconda python. But,

```
$ which python
```

```
~/anaconda/bin/python
```

is still the same. Sigh.

I have spend some time digging around, and it seems it has something to with the DYLD environment variable, most likely the /usr/bin part. It seems I'm picking up the python in /usr/bin instead of the Anaconda version.

Clearly, this is a path problem - which I know is a PITA to troubleshoot remotely.

All this ask: does anyone have the bridge up and running on a Mac? If so, are your paths any different? I can't seem to track down why python is now pointing at an older install. This seems to be the issue causing the IDL-Python bridge fits.
