Subject: Re: python bridge setup - IDL8.6.1 Mac OS X Sierra
Posted by wallabadah on Sat, 19 Aug 2017 10:11:55 GMT
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Thanks for the quick response Chris, it's now much closer to working as it should, but not quite...

Running IDL code from python works as expected, using the following code from IDL Help (albeit with an error

```
>>>  from idlpy import *
>>>  import numpy.random as ran
>>>  arr = ran.rand(100)
>>>  p = IDL.plot(arr, title='My Plot')
(a plot is displayed)
Warning: Cannot convert string " -adobe-helvetica-medium-r-normal-*-*-120-75-75-p-*-iso8859-1 " to type FontStruct
```

Running python within IDL works as expected, using the following code form IDL help:

```
>>>
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy.random as ran
arr = ran.rand(100)
p = plt.plot(arr)
plt.show()
(a plot is displayed)
```

But running python code at the IDL command line doesn't work:

```
ran = Python.Import('numpy.random')
arr = ran.rand(100) ; call "rand" method
plt = Python.Import('matplotlib.pyplot')
p = plt.plot(arr)   ; call "plot", pass an array
void = plt.show(block=0) ; pass keyword
(no plot is shown, no error messages)
```

If you can provide any advice Chris I'd appreciated it, and I'm sure others on the list would appreciate it too.

On a related note, is there any documentation on how using one of the IDL bridges works with distributing software? If one was to develop an IDL application that used (for example) some python code via a bridge, and tried to distribute it using make_rt and the IDL virtual machine... I guess the end user would have to go through the process of setting paths and installing python just as I have been doing in the last few days? Seems a little tricky for the non-specialist... Are there plans to streamline the process?

thanks,

Will