
Subject: Re: IDL 5.6, MacOSX, IDLWAVE, Xemacs, and suicide
Posted by [dbowman](#) on Thu, 16 Jan 2003 08:39:42 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Sorry, I had to finish my earlier message in a hurry... Here's the important details - I'm running MacOS X 10.2.3 on a dual G4 tower. I'm using OroborOSX v0.8b. I've very little experience with emacs (and that was 4 years ago), and I think "lisp" is what you do when you've bitten your tongue.

Thanks in advance for any help.
David B. (not Fanning!)

dbowman@fullerton.edu (David Bowman) wrote in message
news:<f1ba8313.0301151825.57c1c5f9@posting.google.com>...

> I've been spending several days trying to get IDL 5.6 and all of the
> ancillary programs up and running on my G4 tower. After much pulling
> of hair and gnashing of teeth, I was able to get it going. Of course,
> I soon discovered that the "new and improved" (HA!) version does not
> include the wonderful (or at least functional) editor that was
> standard in the old Mac Classic version (5.5). After reading through
> the many postings of the wise and learned seers on this newsgroup,
> I've decided that the best option is to install Xemacs and IDLWAVE.
>
> 3 days later, I'm ready to switch to matlab.
>
> Can somebody tell me an easy, straightforward way to install a Xemacs
> and idlwave? Please, treat me as the complete moron that I feel like.
> Include things like web sites where the programs can be downloaded.
> I'm sure this would be appreciated by many other stranded Mac IDL
> users.
>
> Thanks in advance.
> David

Subject: Re: IDL 5.6, MacOSX, IDLWAVE, Xemacs, and suicide
Posted by [Carsten Dominik](#) on Thu, 16 Jan 2003 09:43:10 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

>>>> > "DB" == David Bowman <dbowman@fullerton.edu> writes:

DB> Can somebody tell me an easy, straightforward way to install a Xemacs
DB> and idlwave? Please, treat me as the complete moron that I feel like.
DB> Include things like web sites where the programs can be downloaded.
DB> I'm sure this would be appreciated by many other stranded Mac IDL
DB> users.

Relax, it is easy when you know where to look.

1. Get Emacs. Currently under MacOS X, I recommend Emacs, not XEmacs. You can get a binary package from

<http://mindlube.com/developer/>

Follow the instructions to install it (trivial).

The default font in this Emacs is a bit odd. Also, since you seem to come from a Mac background, you probably want the Command key to behave normally when you work with Emacs. Therefore, create a ".emacs" file in your home directory and insert the following lines:

```
;; 10pt Monaco.  
(set-default-font "-apple-monaco-medium-r-normal--10-120-75-75-m-120-mac-roman ")  
;; Make option act as meta.  
(setq mac-command-key-is-meta nil)
```

2. That version of Emacs already contains IDLWAVE, fully installed. Any .pro files will automatically be edited in IDLWAVE mode. To round things off, you want to add to .emacs

```
;; Syntax coloring  
(global-font-lock-mode 1)  
;; Tell Emacs where the idl binary is.  
(setq idlwave-shell-explicit-file-name "/usr/local/rsi/idl/bin/idl")  
;; Start IDL when needed  
(setq idlwave-shell-automatic-start t)
```

That should get you up and running. Good luck.

- Carsten

P.S.

For the IDLWAVE manual, go to <http://idlwave.org>. Also, if you want to use IDLWAVE's help system, download the help files from there and follow the instructions in the README file to install them. Basically: Put all the files in a directory and tell Emacs where they are with (again in .emacs)

```
(setq idlwave-help-directory "/full/path/to/helpfiles")
```

I see that you use OroborOSX and XDarwin. That is fine. You may want to consider trying apples X11 at

<http://www.apple.com/macosx/x11/download/>

It is still a beta version but works well, is fast and automatically gives you a window manager which shows all the X11 application windows on the normal desktop. Check out RSI's tech note about running idl with Apple's X11 at

<http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3444>

Subject: Re: IDL 5.6, MacOSX, IDLWAVE, Xemacs, and suicide
Posted by [Edd Edmondson](#) on Thu, 16 Jan 2003 10:00:23 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Bowman <dbowman@fullerton.edu> wrote:

- > I've decided that the best option is to install Xemacs and IDLWAVE.
- > 3 days later, I'm ready to switch to matlab.
- > Can somebody tell me an easy, straightforward way to install a Xemacs
- > and idlwave? Please, treat me as the complete moron that I feel like.
- > Include things like web sites where the programs can be downloaded.
- > I'm sure this would be appreciated by many other stranded Mac IDL
- > users.

I've not used IDL on my Mac yet, but xemacs compiled fine from the source using the standard instructions (once X11 is installed - see the Apple website), if you can't get it using fink (www.xemacs.org and fink.sourceforge.net respectively).

Check the xemacs.org website for full docs and installation instructions and mail me if you still need help.

--
Edd

Subject: Re: IDL 5.6, MacOSX, IDLWAVE, Xemacs, and suicide
Posted by [Edd Edmondson](#) on Thu, 16 Jan 2003 11:06:10 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Bowman <dbowman@fullerton.edu> wrote:

- > Can somebody tell me an easy, straightforward way to install a Xemacs
- > and idlwave? Please, treat me as the complete moron that I feel like.
- > Include things like web sites where the programs can be downloaded.

> I'm sure this would be appreciated by many other stranded Mac IDL
> users.

Oh, and if you choose to install xemacs or emacs from source then make sure you have the Apple developer tools (you'll have them either on CD or you should be able to d/l them from Apple too I think)

Going increasingly offtopic with all this, you'll probably also find that Apple's X11 is much much faster than OroborOSX. I'd definitely recommend you get that.

--
Edd

Subject: Re: IDL 5.6, MacOSX, IDLWAVE, Xemacs
Posted by [dbowman](#) on Thu, 16 Jan 2003 19:50:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Muchos Gracias... That did the trick. I can see that this is going to have a steep learning curve. I'm overflowing with questions, but it's nothing that a few months with the documentation can't solve! :-)

It's still a pity to lose the old built-in editor. It was so much simpler to have everything in one package. I (obviously) make no claims to be a programmer - for me, IDL was the best, fastest way to solve scientific problems without delving into all the complexities of writing and maintaining "real code". Alas, this is the price one pays for relying too heavily on a commercial package - they can change the rules whenever they want... *sigh*

Again many hearty thanks for everyone's help.
-david

Carsten Dominik <dominik@_DROP_THIS_science.uva.nl> wrote in message news:<qzuiswpjuq9.fsf@sand.science.uva.nl>...

>>>> >> "DB" == David Bowman <dbowman@fullerton.edu> writes:

>
> DB> Can somebody tell me an easy, straightforward way to install a Xemacs
> DB> and idlwave? Please, treat me as the complete moron that I feel like.
> DB> Include things like web sites where the programs can be downloaded.
> DB> I'm sure this would be appreciated by many other stranded Mac IDL
> DB> users.
>
> Relax, it is easy when you know where to look.
>
> 1. Get Emacs. Currently under MacOS X, I recommend Emacs, not XEmacs.

> You can get a binary package from
>
> <http://mindlube.com/developer/>
>
> Follow the instructions to install it (trivial).
>
> The default font in this Emacs is a bit odd. Also, since you seem
> to come from a Mac background, you probably want the Command key to
> behave normally when you work with Emacs. Therefore, create a
> ".emacs" file in your home directory and insert the following
> lines:
>
> ;; 10pt Monaco.
> (set-default-font "-apple-monaco-medium-r-normal--10-120-75-75-m-120-mac-roman")
> ;; Make option act as meta.
> (setq mac-command-key-is-meta nil)
>
> 2. That version of Emacs already contains IDLWAVE, fully installed.
> Any .pro files will automatically be edited in IDLWAVE mode. To
> round things off, you want to add to .emacs
>
> ;; Syntax coloring
> (global-font-lock-mode 1)
> ;; Tell Emacs where the idl binary is.
> (setq idlwave-shell-explicit-file-name "/usr/local/rsi/idl/bin/idl")
> ;; Start IDL when needed
> (setq idlwave-shell-automatic-start t)
>
> That should get you up and running. Good luck.
>
>
> - Carsten
>
> P.S.
>
> For the IDLWAVE manual, go to <http://idlwave.org>. Also, if you
> want to use IDLWAVE's help system, download the help files from
> there and follow the instructions in the README file to install
> them. Basically: Put all the files in a directory and tell Emacs
> where they are with (again in .emacs)
>
> (setq idlwave-help-directory "/full/path/to/helpfiles")
>
> I see that you use OroborOSX and XDarwin. That is fine. You may want
> to consider trying apples X11 at
>
> <http://www.apple.com/macosx/x11/download/>
>

- > It is still a beta version but works well, is fast and
 - > automatically gives you a window manager which shows all the X11
 - > application windows on the normal desktop. Check out RSI's tech
 - > note about running idl with Apple's X11 at
 - >
 - > <http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3444>
-