
Subject: Re: nicing idl at startup from idlwave
Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Mon, 22 Jan 2007 16:08:33 GMT
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The first answer is that this is really dependent on the system you are on. Every Linux machine that I have used only root can do negative niceness. There may be OS settings to change this around. SO the lack of success could be nice just leaving you at 0 since you are not root while running this (I assume).

Cheers,

Brian

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On Jan 22, 9:00 am, Christopher Thom <c...@oddjob.uchicago.edu> wrote:
> Hi gang,
>
> A quick question -- does anyone know how to start idl from idlwave with a
> lower process priority? I tried setting idlwave-shell-explicit-file-name
> to something like "nice -5 idl" without any success. Looks like this needs
> to be the filename only, I presume since idl is started without recourse
> to the shell.
>
> cheers
> chris

Subject: Re: nicing idl at startup from idlwave
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Mon, 22 Jan 2007 17:22:50 GMT
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On Mon, 22 Jan 2007 10:00:30 -0600, Christopher Thom wrote:

> Hi gang,
>
> A quick question -- does anyone know how to start idl from idlwave with a
> lower process priority? I tried setting idlwave-shell-explicit-file-name
> to something like "nice -5 idl" without any success. Looks like this needs
> to be the filename only, I presume since idl is started without recourse
> to the shell.

Probably the easiest is to make a shell script "niceidl" and reference that directly in shell-explicit-filename. renice also could do the trick post-facto, and a little elisp could make it much easier to use. Stick this in your .emacs:

```
(defun renice-idl (&optional priority)
  (interactive "NIDL Priority (nice): ")
  (if (idlwave-shell-is-running)
      (shell-command
       (format "renice %d -p %d"
               priority
               (process-id (get-buffer-process (idlwave-shell-buffer))))))
      (idlwave-shell-define-key-both [f9] 'renice-idl))
```

Then hitting f9 will prompt for a nice value to set the IDL process to. Note that you can only increase 'nice' on most systems (from 0-20). If you really want the same nice value every time you start IDLWAVE, you can:

```
(add-hook 'idlwave-shell-mode-hook (lambda () (renice-idl 5)))
```

JD

Subject: Re: nicing idl at startup from idlwave
Posted by [Christopher Thom](#) on Mon, 22 Jan 2007 19:15:23 GMT
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Quoth JD Smith:

```
> On Mon, 22 Jan 2007 10:00:30 -0600, Christopher Thom wrote:
>
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>>
>> A quick question -- does anyone know how to start idl from idlwave with a
>> lower process priority? I tried setting idlwave-shell-explicit-file-name
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> that directly in shell-explicit-filename. renice also could do the
> trick post-facto, and a little elisp could make it much easier to use.
> Stick this in your .emacs:
```

duh. shell script. always miss the simple and obvious solutions. thanks both. I just tried it and it works fine...will keep an eye out for unexpected side-effects of have a shell layer in there.

btw -- i should have been a little more explicit: "nice -5" is a somewhat historical usage, which lowers the priority (i.e. = nice -n +5 idl). at least, on my linux/mac machines.

cheers
chris
