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Subject: Re: idlwave and emacs "empty input ring"  
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 20:56:28 GMT  
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On Mon, 21 May 2007 15:39:00 -0700, Rob wrote:

>  
> If I close my emacs window w/o closing the IDL shell via "exit" then I  
> lose the comint history for that session. If I first exit the IDL  
> shell, then C-x C-s, when I restart emacs and C-c C-s a new IDL shell,  
> the history from the last session is available. Is there anyway to  
> have the IDL history autosave in case of a crash?

Hmmm, if you can't remember to quit directly (I use C-d), you might add this to your idlwave-shell-mode-hook:

```
(add-hook 'kill-emacs-hook
  (lambda ()
    (let ((buf (idlwave-shell-buffer)))
      (when (get-buffer buf)
        (set-buffer buf)
        (if (and idlwave-shell-save-command-history
            (stringp idlwave-shell-command-history-file))
            (condition-case nil
              (comint-write-input-ring)
              (error nil)))))))
```

JD

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Subject: Re: idlwave and emacs "empty input ring"  
Posted by [Rob\[2\]](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 14:05:03 GMT  
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On May 22, 2:56 pm, JD Smith <jdsm...@as.arizona.edu> wrote:

> On Mon, 21 May 2007 15:39:00 -0700, Rob wrote:  
>  
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>> lose the comint history for that session. If I first exit the IDL  
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> Hmmm, if you can't remember to quit directly (I use C-d), you might add  
> this to your idlwave-shell-mode-hook:  
>  
> (add-hook 'kill-emacs-hook  
> (lambda ()

```

> (let ((buf (idlwave-shell-buffer)))
> (when (get-buffer buf)
> (set-buffer buf)
> (if (and idlwave-shell-save-command-history
> (stringp idlwave-shell-command-history-file))
> (condition-case nil
> (comint-write-input-ring)
> (error nil))))))
>
> JD

```

That certainly helps in the case that I forget to C-d in the IDL session. There are two other situations that I regularly experience that you can perhaps help with.

- 1) Until I fixed a video card driver issue, iTool was crashing my xserver which caused a loss to changes in the IDL comint history. I suppose this could happen again.
- 2) I often leave an emacs/IDL open on my work computer. When I get home, I may do a bit more work by running emacs, etc across X; also a situation where I don't have access to the last comint history changes. This is not a big deal, just a "nice to have".

For situation 2), is it possible to issue a HUP-like signal from a remote shell to kill the emacs running on my work computer in a way which invokes your save comint code above?

Thanks!

R

Subject: Re: idlwave and emacs "empty input ring"  
 Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 18:02:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Wed, 23 May 2007 07:05:03 -0700, Rob wrote:

```

> That certainly helps in the case that I forget to C-d in the IDL session.
> There are two other situations that I regularly experience that you can
> perhaps help with.
> 1) Until I fixed a video card driver issue, iTool was crashing my xserver
> which caused a loss to changes in the IDL comint history. I suppose this
> could happen again.
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> I may do a bit more work by running emacs, etc across X; also a situation
> where I don't have access to the last comint history changes. This is not
> a big deal, just a "nice to have".

```

>  
> For situation 2), is it possible to issue a HUP-like signal from a remote  
> shell to kill the emacs running on my work computer in a way which invokes  
> your save comint code above?

How about the following instead:

```
(add-hook 'idlwave-shell-mode-hook
  (lambda ()

    ;; Auto-save buffer contents and input history
    (add-hook
      'auto-save-hook
      (lambda ()
        (let ((buf (idlwave-shell-buffer)))
          (when (get-buffer buf)
            (set-buffer buf)
            (if (and idlwave-shell-save-command-history
                     (stringp idlwave-shell-command-history-file))
                (condition-case nil
                  (comint-write-input-ring)
                  (error nil))))))
      nil 'local)
    (auto-save-mode t)
    (add-hook 'idlwave-shell-sentinel-hook
      (lambda ()
        (delete-auto-save-file-if-necessary 'force))))))
```

This piggybacks on auto-save to write out the command history every time an auto-save happens. It also auto-saves the contents of the \*idl\* buffer (as some file name like #\*idl\*#28538NXc#), which might be useful if you lost your session and wanted to see what was in it. If the process is ended legitimately, this backup file is removed.

The only real issue here is if you have multiple Emacs + IDLWAVE Shell sessions going at once, in which case they will step on each other's toes writing to the same command history file (though that is more or less true already). Let me know if this works well for you; I may consider adding it as an option to a future version of IDLWAVE.

JD

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