Subject: Re: IDL from home, via modem
Posted by hahn on Thu, 11 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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g.d.nowicki@larc.nasa.gov (Gregory D. Nowicki) wrote:

> In article <4s1k7e$86d@newsbf02.news.aol.com>, metas@aol.com says...

[snip]
>> I currently have a classic Mac and use a tek4105 terminal emulator,

A couple if IDL function require a windowing system. However, many
important function still work with a tek41xx emulator.

[snip]

>> X Windows?  Linux/X Windows?   Are there other devices besides
>> 'X' and 'tek' which I could use to display on a PC or Mac?

No. Go with X !

> I run from home over a 28.8 modem link, used to be 14.4 - using a 486/66
> running Linux, v1.3.99 - I think.  (I upgrade so often, I sometimes forget).

That may depend on the kind of modems you use. Some employ
data compression giving about 5 kBytes per second over a 28,8
kBit per second link. However, a poor quality of the phone line will
reduce the data rate to 9600 kBit/sec...
> Xwindows is slow, but not painful as it was using 14.4  I am soon to
> upgrade to ISDN.  Unfortunately, the IDSN link will be to a network
> provider, not to my worksite.  So network delays will rear their ugly heads
> and I don't think I'll see the full effect of the ISDN speed.

I'm afraid, you are right. The X network protocol requires a data transfer
of about 5 kBytes per second and a round trip time of 50 msec for a
decent working quality. ISDN will bring 8 kBytes per second per logical
link (there are at least two logical links available), so you'll exceed the
minimum data transfer rate. The round trip time however depends on
the number of node involved because some nodes store the data to find
the best route. This is done for packet switched networks. ISDN transmission
is done in real time.

Round trip time is the time the X client has to wait for a message to get
answered by the  X server. Fortunately the X Window protocol uses
message queues and avoids round trip requests when ever  possible
.
> Probably the worst thing I found you could do was run a web browser on a
> server with the redirect to your home screen.  It stunk compared to

> running a local copy.

Well, web browsers are designed to run on the local system. The html
format is designed to go over slow lines, but the browser's output is
made for a local connection.

>   Linux is great, but if you're a first timer, I
> suggest something like the Red Hat or Caldera distributions.  They will
> get you up and running pretty fast.  Also, there is a version of IDL
> for Linux that is pretty robust.

Yes. And installing some PC Windows and an X Server is no fun too.

Just my $ 0.02 thoughts
Norbert

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Subject: Re: IDL from home, via modem
Posted by Andy Loughe on Thu, 11 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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MetaS wrote:
>
> Hi IDL fans:
>
> There must be others of you who sometimes need to work on IDL
> remotely from home, via modem.  I'd like to tap into the current
> wisdom on the best way to handle this.  I'm considering here
> working with datasets that are quite large, so transferring them
> and running IDL on my home computer wouldn't be feasible.
>
> I currently have a classic Mac and use a tek4105 terminal emulator,
> and display graphics using device 'tek'.  This is OK (especially
> considering I have a small screen and B/W only, anyway).  I was
> wondering what other options there would be, and also what works best for
> the Windows PC users among you.  Tektronix emulation?
> X Windows?  Linux/X Windows?   Are there other devices besides
> 'X' and 'tek' which I could use to display on a PC or Mac?
>
> I apologize if this post is somewhat off topic - I will summarize
> e-mail responses I receive if there is interest.  Thanks.
>
> Meta Sienkiewicz
> metas@aol.com


Hi Meta!  I used to work with you at the "off-site" facility
near GSFC.  Do you remember my short stay at that location?

Anyway, I use PC-Xware on my home computer which is fixed up
with an AT&T 28.8 modem, and is running on a 83 Mhz. pentium
chip. It works very well for me. Tell Bob Rosenberg you
need a hot little laptop with PC-Xware. That should do it!

--
Andrew F. Loughe          afl@cdc.noaa.gov
University of Colorado, CIRES     http://cdc.noaa.gov/~afl
Campus Box 449          phn:(303)492-0707    fax:(303)497-7013
Boulder, CO 80309-0449          "He who laughs last thinks slowest!"

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## Subject: Re: IDL from home, via modem
Posted by g.d.nowicki on Thu, 11 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <4s1k7e$86d@newsbf02.news.aol.com>, metas@aol.com says...
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Ooohhh... Upgrade time. ;-)

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>
> Meta Sienkiewicz
> metas@aol.com

Good luck,

-Greg

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## Subject: Re: IDL from home, via modem
Posted by Ian E. Sprod on Wed, 17 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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MetaS wrote:
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> Meta Sienkiewicz
> metas@aol.com

I often work from home on a Mac at 14.4kbps to run IDL on my
workstation at work. My current solution is
to run NCSA Telnet and Netscape on my Mac at home. I can type
IDL commands in the Telnet window once I have connected to the

workstation. For the graphics I use the Z buffer and periodically
do a ...

write_gif,'/web/image.gif',tvrd()

in order to write the screen out as a GIF to a web-accessible directory.
Then I use Netscape to view the GIF.

This is pretty speedy as GIF is a VERY compact image format.

I used to use MacX, but that was SO slow and painful I would not
recommend it over a modem unless you are an extremely patient
individual.

Ian

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