

Re: [ANN] Ltk – The Lisp Toolkit

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Lisp/comp.lang.lisp/2004-06/0798.html>

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Rob Warnock wrote:

> *A few small suggestions:*

>

> – *The interaction between DO-EXECUTE, START-W, *W*, the callers of*
> *START-W, and the users of *W* seems a bit awkward. Since you already*
> *have DO-EXECUTE heavily conditionalized for various operating systems,*
> *it might be better to simply eliminate START-W altogether, pull the*
> *pathname for "wish" out into a global constant to make it easier to*
> *conditionalize for local variations [see next item], and just have*
> *the two former callers of START-W call DO-EXECUTE directly. And perhaps*
> *the same for the args to the "wish" process (in case somebody wants to*
> *start "wish" with a different colormap or something). The result might*
> *look something like this:*

>

```
> (defconstant +wish-pathname+  
> #+frebsd "wish8.3" ; or 8.4, whatever  
> #+(and sbcl (not frebsd)) "/usr/bin/wish"  
> #- (or sbcl frebsd) "wish")  
>  
> (defconstant +wish-args+ ('("-name" "LTK"))
```

Yes that was a little bit cluttered. I have cleaned it up following your suggestions. Yet I think it may be useful to declare wish-pathname and wish-args as special variables, so that it can be overridden for special purposes without changing the Ltk source.

> ...

>

```
> (defmacro with-ltk (&rest body)  
> `(progn  
> (setf *w* (do-execute +wish-pathname+ +wish-args+))  
> ,@body  
> (mainloop)))
```

I have retained (though cleaned up) start-w, so that especially for playing with Ltk from the REPL you can initialize it without exposing details to the user.

> – *Your doc file suggests:*
>
> *Note: on FreeBSD wish resides in /usr/local/bin/wish8.4 for
> Tcl/Tk version 8.4. You either have to modify the path to wish
> in ltk.lisp or create a link called wish to the executable
> (like: cd /usr/local/bin;ln -s /usr/local/bin/wish8.4 wish).*
>
> *Actually, on FreeBSD there is *already* a program named "wish", which
> when run, says this:*
>
> *% wish*
> *In FreeBSD, wish is named with a version number. This is
> because different versions of wish are not compatible with
> each other and they can not all be called "wish"! You may
> need multiple versions installed because a given port may
> depend on a specific version.*
>
> *On your system, wish is installed under at least the following
> names:*
>
> *wish8.3*
> *%*
>
> *So you probably don't want to overwrite that program. ;-}*

Indeed :). It was only a shot in the dark after I received a mail from a FreeBSD user, as I have no FreeBSD experience of myself.

> – *On Common Lisps which provide threads (CMUCL, SBCL, others), it would
> be nice if LTK:MAINLOOP ran in a separate thread, so that one still
> had access to the main REPL, at least while debugging. [Time permitting,
> I'll try to hack something up to work under CMUCL as a base case...]*

Yes that might be useful. You can find some thread stuff in ltk-remote, which creates a separate thread for each new connection. With CMUCL I made the experience that the threads do not mix well with SLIME, but that probably is a mistake I made.

I just uploaded the newest version of Ltk to my website, incorporating your changes. Due to the experience with the last version I released, I have labeled it separately as ltk-latest.tgz and will only move it to the stable version after a few days of use...

Thanks for your contributions.

Peter

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comp.lang.lisp: Re: [ANN] Ltk – The Lisp Toolkit

lisp stuff: <http://www.peter-herth.de/lisp.html>