

Instructions for installing and running IDL-Python Bridge on Mac OS

(Zarro, 7/18/18)

- (1) Install latest Mac OS Anaconda with Python 2.7 from:

<https://www.anaconda.com/download/#macos>

- (2) Set environment variables so that IDL and Python can meet each other and find true love. Make sure \$IDL_DIR is pointing to IDL 8.5 and \$TOP is pointing to where you installed Anaconda.

```
setenv PATH $TOP/anaconda2/bin:${PATH}
setenv PYTHONPATH $IDL_DIR/lib/bridges:$SSW/gen/python/bridge
```

- (3) Run Python setup file (only need to do this once, and may need sudo):

```
setenv PYTHONHOME $TOP/anaconda2
cp $SSW/gen/python/bridge/setup.py $IDL_DIR/lib/bridges
cd $IDL_DIR/lib/bridges
python setup.py install
```

- (4) Start Python, import and start IDL bridge, and run test plot:

```
python
>> import bridge
>> IDL=bridge.startup()
>> IDL.run("plot,findgen(100)")
```