

# **ILISP User Manual**

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A GNU Emacs Interface for Interacting with Lisp  
Edition 0.9, March 1991  
For ILISP Version 4.11.

by **Todd Kaufmann and Chris McConnell**

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## How to get the latest ILISP distribution.

ILISP is "free"; this means that everyone is free to use it and free to redistribute it on a free basis. ILISP is not in the public domain; it is copyrighted and there are restrictions on its distribution, but these restrictions are designed to permit everything that a good cooperating citizen would want to do. What is not allowed is to try to prevent others from further sharing any version of ILISP that they might get from you. The precise conditions appears following this section.

The easiest way to get a copy of ILISP is from someone else who has it. You need not ask for permission to do so, or tell any one else; just copy it.

If you do start using the package, please send mail to 'ccm@cs.cmu.edu' so that I can keep a mailing list of users. Any comments or code are also welcome.

### FTP directions

You can anonymously ftp the source files from CMU:

- Ftp to katmandu.mt.cs.cmu.edu (128.2.250.68)
- login as anonymous, with user@host as password
- cd pub/ilisp

Get the files you need:

- get ilisp.tar.Z or
- mget README HISTORY \*.el \*.lisp \*.texi \*.info \*.ps \*.dvi \*.lcd
- If Franz gives permission for the Franz online CL manual: get fi.tar.Z

Unpack and install:

1. `uncompress ilisp.tar.Z; tar xf ilisp.tar`
2. `uncompress fi.tar.Z; tar xf fi.tar`
3. See Chapter 1 [Installation], page 7.



## Acknowledgements

ILISP is based on comint mode and derived from a number of different interfaces including Symbolics, cmulisp, and Thinking Machines. There are many people that have taken the time to report bugs, make suggestions and even better send code to fix bugs or implement new features. Special thanks to Todd Kaufmann for the texinfo file, work on bridge, epoch-pop and for really exercising everything. Thanks to Neil Smithline, David Braunegg, Fred White, Jim Healy, Larry Stead, Hans Chalupsky, Michael Ernst, Frank Ritter, Tom Emerson, David Duff, Dan Pierson, Michael Kashket, Jamie Zawinski, Bjorn Victor and Brian Dennis for bug reports, suggestions and code. Please send bug reports, fixes and extensions to 'ccm@cs.cmu.edu' so I can merge them into the master source.

--Chris McConnell 18-Mar-91



## Introduction

ILISP is an interface from GNU Emacs to an inferior LISP. It has the following features:

- Support for multiple LISP dialects including Lucid, Allegro and CMU on multiple machines even at the same time.
- Dynamically sized pop-up windows that can be buried and scrolled from any window.
- Packages are properly handled including the distinction between exported and internal symbols.
- Synchronous, asynchronous or batch eval and compile of files, regions, definitions and sexps with optional switching and automatic calling.
- Arglist, documentation, describe, inspect and macroexpand.
- Completion of filename components and LISP symbols including partial matches.
- Find source both with and without help from the inferior LISP, including CLOS methods, multiple definitions and multiple files. Also works for automatically generated functions like defstruct.
- Edit the callers of a function with and without help from the inferior LISP.
- Trace/untrace a function.
- *M-q* (“Fill-paragraph”) works properly on paragraphs in comments, strings and code.
- Find unbalanced parentheses.
- Super brackets.
- Handles editing, entering and indenting full LISP expressions.
- Next, previous, and similar history mechanism compatible with comint.
- Handles LISP errors.
- Result histories are maintained in the inferior LISP.
- Does not create spurious symbols and handles case issues.
- Online manuals for ILISP and Common LISP.



# 1 How to install ILISP

Installation of ILISP and some initialization of your computing environment are described in this chapter. Please read the following sections carefully before getting started with ILISP.

If ILISP has already been installed at your location, you can probably skip ahead to “Autoloading.”

## 1.1 Files of ILISP

The files you need to use ilisp are:

<code>ilisp.emacs</code>	File with sample <code>.emacs</code> code for ILISP.
<code>symlink.el</code>	Expand pathnames resolving links.
<code>completer.el</code>	Partial completion code.
<code>completion.el</code>	Completion package from TMC.
<code>popper.el</code>	Shrink-wrapped temporary windows.
<code>epoch-pop.el</code>	Popper for epoch.
<code>bridge.el</code>	Process to process communication.
<code>comint.el</code>	The basic comint abstraction.
<code>comint-ipc.el</code>	Extensions for sending commands and getting results.
<code>ilisp-ext.el</code>	Standalone lisp-mode extensions.
<code>ilisp-src.el</code>	ILISP source code module.
<code>ilisp-bat.el</code>	ILISP batch code module.
<code>ilisp.el</code>	Actual ILISP definitions.
<code>*.lisp</code>	ILISP support code. Each dialect will have one of these files.
<code>*.lcd</code>	Package descriptors for the Lisp Code Directory.
<code>fi/*</code>	Online Franz Common LISP manual.

`ilisp.texi`

Texinfo file for ILISP.

All of the `.el` files in the `ilisp` directory and the `fi` subdirectory should be byte-compiled by typing `C-u M-x byte-recompile-directory`. Before compiling, make sure that `load-path` has the location of the files on it. If you plan to use `epoch`, you must make sure that the `epoch` EMACS code is loaded before compiling `epoch-pop`. If you do not plan to use `epoch`, you should rename the `epoch-pop.el` file to `epoch-pop` so that it will not get compiled. The first time a dialect is started, the interface files will complain about not being compiled, just hit `i` to ignore the message. Once a lisp dialect is started up, you should execute the command `ilisp-compile-inits` which will compile the `*.lisp` files and write them to the same directory as the `ilisp` files.

The binary files should have a unique extension for each different combination of architecture and LISP dialect. You will need to change `ilisp-init-binary-extension` and `ilisp-init-binary-command` to get additional extensions. The binary for each different architecture should be different. If you want to build the interface files into a LISP world, you will also need to set `ilisp-load-inits` to `nil` in the same place that you change `ilisp-program` to load the LISP world.

There is an `ilisp-site-hook` for initializing site specific stuff like program locations when ILISP is first loaded. You may want to define appropriate autoloads in your system Emacs start up file.

Example site init:

```
;;; CMU site
(setq ilisp-site-hook
  '(lambda ()
    (setq ilisp-motd "CMU ILISP V%s")
    (setq expand-symlinks-rfs-exists t)
    (setq allegro-program "/usr/misc/.allegro/bin/cl")
    (setq lucid-program "/usr/misc/.lucid/bin/lisp")))
```

## 1.2 How to define autoload entries

These are sample forms for your `.emacs` file. They can be found in the file `ilisp.emacs` in the `ilisp`-directory.

```
;;;
;;; This file shows examples of some of the things you might want to
;;; do to install or customize ILISP. You may not want to include all
;;; of them in your .emacs. For example, the default key binding
;;; prefix for ILISP is C-z and this file changes the default prefix to
;;; C-c. For more information on things that can be changed, see the
;;; file ilisp.el.
;;;
```

```
;;; If ilisp lives in some non-standard directory, you must tell emacs
;;; where to get it. This may or may not be necessary.
```

```
(setq load-path (cons (expand-file-name "~jones/emacs/ilisp/") load-path))
```

```

;;; If you always want partial minibuffer completion
(require 'completer)

;;; If you always want TMC completion
(load "completion")
(initialize-completions)

;;; If you want to redefine popper keys
(setq popper-load-hook
  '(lambda ()
    (define-key global-map "\C-cl" 'popper-bury-output)
    (define-key global-map "\C-cv" 'popper-scroll-output)
    (define-key global-map "\C-cg" 'popper-grow-output)))

;;; If you always want popper windows
(if (boundp 'epoch::version)
    (require 'epoch-pop)
    (require 'popper))

;;; Autoload based on your LISP.  You only really need the one you use.
;;; If called with a prefix, you will be prompted for a buffer and program.█
(autoload 'run-ilisp "ilisp" "Select a new inferior LISP." t)
(autoload 'clisp "ilisp" "Inferior generic Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'allegro "ilisp" "Inferior Allegro Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'lucid "ilisp" "Inferior Lucid Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'cmulisp "ilisp" "Inferior CMU Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'kcl "ilisp" "Inferior Kyoto Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'akcl "ilisp" "Inferior Austin Kyoto Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'ibcl "ilisp" "Ibuki Common LISP." t)
(autoload 'scheme "ilisp" "Inferior generic Scheme." t)
(autoload 'oaklisp "ilisp" "Inferior Oaklisp Scheme." t)

;;; Define where LISP programs are found.  (This may already be done
;;; at your site.)
(setq allegro-program "/usr/misc/.allegro/bin/cl")
(setq lucid-program "/usr/misc/.lucid/bin/lisp")
(setq cmulisp-program "/usr/misc/.cmucl/bin/lisp")

;;; This makes reading a lisp file load in ilisp.
(set-default 'auto-mode-alist
  (append '(("\.lisp$" . lisp-mode)) auto-mode-alist))
(setq lisp-mode-hook '(lambda () (require 'ilisp)))

;;; Sample load hook
(setq ilisp-load-hook
  '(lambda ()
    ;; Change default key prefix to C-c

```

```
(setq ilisp-prefix "\C-c")
;; Sample initialization hook. Set the inferior LISP directory to
;; the directory of the buffer that spawned it on the first prompt.
(add-hook 'ilisp-init-hook
  (function (lambda ()
    (default-directory-lisp ilisp-last-buffer))))))

;;; Setup to always show output in the Inferior LISP buffer.
;(setq lisp-no-popper t
;      comint-always-scroll t)
```

## 2 How to run a Lisp process using ILISP

To start a Lisp use *M-x run-ilisp*, or a specific dialect like *M-x allegro*. If called with a prefix you will be prompted for a buffer name and a program to run. The default buffer name is the name of the dialect. The default program for a dialect will be the value of `DIALECT-program` or the value of `ilisp-program` inherited from a less specific dialect. If there are multiple LISP's, use the dialect name or *M-x select-ilisp* (*C-z S*) to select the current ILISP buffer.

These are the currently supported dialects. The dialects are listed so that the indentation corresponds to the hierarchical relationship between dialects.

```
clisp
  allegro
  lucid
  kcl
    akcl
    ibcl
  cmulisp
scheme
  oaklisp
```

If anyone figures out support for other dialects I would be happy to include it in future releases. See Chapter 6 [Dialects], page 27.

Entry into ILISP mode runs the hooks on `comint-mode-hook` and `ilisp-mode-hook` and then DIALECT-hooks specific to LISP dialects in the nesting order above.



## 3 Buffers used by ILISP, and their commands

### *\*dialect\**

The Lisp listener buffer. Forms can be entered in this buffer in, and they will be sent to lisp when you hit return if the form is complete. This buffer is in `ilisp-mode`, which is built on top of `comint-mode`, and all `comint` commands such as history mechanism and job control are available.

### *lisp-mode-buffers*

A buffer is assumed to contain Lisp source code if its major mode is in the list `lisp-source-modes`. If it's loaded into a buffer that is in one of these major modes, it's considered a lisp source file by `find-file-lisp`, `load-file-lisp` and `compile-file-lisp`. Used by these commands to determine defaults.

### *\*Completions\**

Used for listing completions of symbols or files by the completion commands. See Section 4.12 [Completion], page 22.

### *\*Aborted Commands\**

See Section 4.10 [Interrupts], page 20.

### *\*Errors\**

### *\*Output\**

### *\*Error Output\**

used to pop-up results and errors from the inferior LISP.

### *\*ilisp-send\**

Buffer containing the last form sent to the inferior LISP.

### *\*Edit-Definitions\**

### *\*All-Callers\**

See Section 4.6 [Source code commands], page 18.

### *\*Last-Changes\**

### *\*Changed-Definitions\**

See Section 4.7 [Batch commands], page 19.

## 3.1 Popper buffers

ILISP uses a dynamically sized pop-up window that can be buried and scrolled from any window for displaying output. By default the smallest window will have just one line. If you like bigger windows, set `window-min-height` to the number of lines desired plus one.

The variable `popper-pop-buffers` has a list of temporary buffer names that will be displayed in the pop-up window. By default only `*Typeout-window*` and `*Completions*` will be displayed in the pop-up window (remember to include the leading space in a buffer name if it has it). If you want all temporary windows to use the pop-up window, set `popper-pop-buffers` to `t`.

The variable `popper-buffers-to-skip` has a list of the buffer names `C-x o` (`popper-other-window`) skips or `t` to skip all popper buffers. If `popper-other-window` is called with a `C-u` prefix, the popper window will be selected.

### *C-z 1 (popper-bury-output)*

buries the output window.

**C-z v** (*popper-scroll-output*)

scrolls the output window if it is already showing, otherwise it pops it up. If it is called with a negative prefix, it will scroll backwards.

**C-z G** (*popper-grow-output*)

will grow the output window if showing by the prefix number of lines. Otherwise, it will pop the window up.

If you are running ‘epoch’, the popper window will be in a separate X window that is not automatically grown or shrunk. The variable `popper-screen-properties` can be used to set window properties for that window.

An alternative to popper windows is to always have the inferior LISP buffer visible and have all output go there. Setting `lisp-no-popper` to `t` will cause all output to go to the inferior LISP buffer. Setting `comint-always-scroll` to `t` will cause process output to always be visible. If a command gets an error, you will be left in the break loop.

## 3.2 Switching buffers

Commands to make switching between buffers easier.

**C-z b** (*switch-to-lisp*)

will pop to the current ILISP buffer or if already in an ILISP buffer, it will return to the buffer that last switched to an ILISP buffer. With a prefix, it will also go to the end of the buffer. If you do not want it to pop, set `pop-up-windows` to `nil`.

**M-C-1** (*previous-buffer-lisp*)

will switch to the last visited buffer in the current window or the Nth previous buffer with a prefix.

## 4 ILISP Commands

Most of these key bindings work in both Lisp Mode and ILISP mode. There are a few additional and-go bindings found in Lisp Mode.

### 4.1 Eval and compile functions

In LISP, the major unit of interest is a form, which is anything between two matching parentheses. Some of the commands here also refer to “defun,” which is a list that starts at the left margin in a LISP buffer, or after a prompt in the ILISP buffer. These commands refer to the “defun” that contains the point.

“A call” refers to a reference to a function call for a function or macro, or a reference to a variable. Commands which “insert a call” in the ILISP buffer will bring up the last command which matches it or else will insert a template for a call.

When an eval is done of a single form matching `ilisp-defvar-regex` the corresponding symbol will be unbound and the value assigned again.

When you send a form to LISP, the status light will reflect the progress of the command. In a lisp mode buffer the light will reflect the status of the currently selected inferior LISP unless `lisp-show-status` is nil. If you want to find out what command is currently running, use the command `C-z s` (`status-lisp`). If you call it with a prefix, the pending commands will be displayed as well.

Note that in this table as elsewhere, the key `C-z` (`ilisp-prefix`) is used as a prefix character for ILISP commands, though this may be changed. For a full list of key-bindings, use `M-x describe-mode` or `M-x describe-bindings` while in an ILISP-mode buffer.

The eval/compile commands verify that their expressions are balanced and then send the form to the inferior LISP. If called with a positive prefix, the result of the operation will be inserted into the buffer after the form that was just sent.

For commands which operate on a region, the result of the compile or eval is the last form in the region.

The ‘and-go’ versions will perform the operation and then immediately switch to the ILISP buffer where you will see the results of executing your form. If `eval-defun-and-go-lisp` or `compile-defun-and-go-lisp` is called with a prefix, a call for the form will be inserted as well.

**C-z**            The prefix-key for most ILISP commands. This can be changed by setting the variable `ilisp-prefix`.

**RET** (*return-ilisp*)

In ILISP-mode buffer, sends the current form to lisp if complete, otherwise creates a new line and indents. If you edit old input, the input will be copied to the end of the buffer first and then sent.

**C-]** (*close-and-send-lisp*)

Closes the current sexp, indents it, and then sends it to the current inferior LISP.

*LFD (newline-and-indent-lisp)*

Insert a new line and then indent to the appropriate level. If called at the end of the inferior LISP buffer and an sexp, the sexp will be sent to the inferior LISP without a trailing newline.

*C-z e (eval-defun-lisp)*

*M-C-x (eval-defun-lisp)*

*C-z C-e (eval-defun-and-go-lisp)*

Send the defun to lisp.

*C-z r (eval-region-lisp)*

*C-z C-r (eval-region-and-go-lisp)*

*C-z n (eval-next-sexp-lisp)*

*C-z C-n (eval-next-sexp-and-go-lisp)*

*C-z c (compile-defun-lisp)*

*C-z C-c (compile-defun-lisp-and-go)*

When `compile-defun-lisp` is called in an inferior LISP buffer with no current form, the last form typed to the top-level will be compiled.

*C-z w (compile-region-lisp)*

*C-z C-w (compile-region-and-go-lisp)*

If any of the forms contain an interactive command, then the command will never return. To get out of this state, you need to use `abort-commands-lisp` (*C-z g*). If `lisp-wait-p` is `t`, then EMACS will display the result of the command in the minibuffer or a pop-up window. If `lisp-wait-p` is `nil`, (the default) the send is done asynchronously and the results will be brought up only if there is more than one line or there is an error. In this case, you will be given the option of ignoring the error, keeping it in another buffer or keeping it and aborting all pending sends. If there is not a command already running in the inferior LISP, you can preserve the break loop. If called with a negative prefix, the sense of `lisp-wait-p` will be inverted for the next command.

## 4.2 Documentation functions

`describe-lisp`, `inspect-lisp`, `arglist-lisp`, and `documentation-lisp` switch whether they prompt for a response or use a default when called with a negative prefix. If they are prompting, there is completion through the inferior LISP by using `TAB` or `M-TAB`. When entering an expression in the minibuffer, all of the normal ilisp commands like `arglist-lisp` also work.

Commands that work on a function will use the nearest previous function symbol. This is either a symbol after a '#' or the symbol at the start of the current list.

*C-z a (arglist-lisp)*

Return the arglist of the current function. With a numeric prefix, the leading paren will be removed and the arglist will be inserted into the buffer.

*C-z d (documentation-lisp)*

Infers whether function or variable documentation is desired. With a negative prefix, you can specify the type of documentation as well. With a positive prefix the documentation of the current function call is inserted into the buffer.

**C-z i (describe-lisp)**

Describe the previous sexp (it is evaluated). If there is no previous sexp and if called from inside an ILISP buffer, the previous result will be described.

**C-z i (describe-lisp)**

Describe the previous sexp (it is evaluated). If there is no previous sexp and if called from inside an ILISP buffer, the previous result will be described.

**C-z I (inspect-lisp)**

Switch to the current inferior LISP and inspect the previous sexp (it is evaluated). If there is no previous sexp and if called from inside an ILISP buffer, the previous result will be inspected.

**C-z D (fi:clman)****C-z A (fi:clman-*apropos*)**

If the Franz online Common LISP manual is available, get information on a specific symbol. *fi:clman-*apropos** will get information *apropos* a specific string. Some of the documentation is specific to the allegro dialect, but most of it is for standard Common LISP.

### 4.3 Macroexpansion

**C-z M (macroexpand-lisp)****C-z m (macroexpand-1-lisp)**

These commands apply to the next sexp. If called with a positive numeric prefix, the result of the macroexpansion will be inserted into the buffer. With a negative prefix, prompts for expression to expand.

### 4.4 Tracing functions

**C-z t (trace-defun-lisp)**

traces the current defun. When called with a numeric prefix the function will be untraced. When called with negative prefix, prompts for function to be traced.

### 4.5 Package Commands

The first time an inferior LISP mode command is executed in a Lisp Mode buffer, the package will be determined by using the regular expression *ilisp-package-regex* to find a package sexp and then passing that sexp to the inferior LISP through *ilisp-package-command*. For the ‘*clisp*’ dialect, this will find the first (*in-package* PACKAGE) form in the file. A buffer’s package will be displayed in the mode line. If a buffer has no specification, forms will be evaluated in the current inferior LISP package.

**C-z p (package-lisp)**

Show the current package of the inferior LISP.

**C-z P (set-package-lisp)**

Set the inferior LISP package to the current buffer’s package or with a prefix to a manually entered package.

**M-x set-buffer-package-lisp**

Set the buffer's package from the buffer. If it is called with a prefix, the package can be set manually.

## 4.6 Source Code Commands

The following commands all deal with finding things in source code. The first time that one of these commands is used, there may be some delay while the source module is loaded. When searching files, the first applicable rule is used:

- try the inferior LISP,
- try a tags file if defined,
- try all buffers in one of `lisp-source-modes` or all files defined using `lisp-directory`.

`M-x lisp-directory` defines a set of files to be searched by the source code commands. It prompts for a directory and sets the source files to be those in the directory that match entries in `auto-mode-alist` for modes in `lisp-source-modes`. With a positive prefix, the files are appended. With a negative prefix, all current buffers that are in one of `lisp-source-modes` will be searched. This is also what happens by default. Using this command stops using a tags file.

`edit-definitions-lisp`, `who-calls-lisp`, and `edit-callers-lisp` will switch whether they prompt for a response or use a default when called with a negative prefix. If they are prompting, there is completion through the inferior LISP by using `TAB` or `M-TAB`. When entering an expression in the minibuffer, all of the normal ILISP commands like `arglist-lisp` also work.

`edit-definitions-lisp` (`M-.`) will find a particular type of definition for a symbol. It tries to use the rules described above. The files to be searched are listed in the buffer `*Edit-Definitions*`. If `lisp-edit-files` is nil, no search will be done if not found through the inferior LISP. The variable `ilisp-locator` contains a function that when given the name and type should be able to find the appropriate definition in the file. There is often a flag to cause your LISP to record source files that you will need to set in the initialization file for your LISP. The variable is `*record-source-files*` in both `allegro` and `lucid`. Once a definition has been found, `next-definition-lisp` (`M-,`) will find the next definition (or the previous definition with a prefix).

`edit-callers-lisp` (`C-z ^`) will generate a list of all of the callers of a function in the current inferior LISP and edit the first caller using `edit-definitions-lisp`. Each successive call to `next-caller-lisp` (`M-^`) will edit the next caller (or the previous caller with a prefix). The list is stored in the buffer `*All-Callers*`. You can also look at the callers by doing `M-x who-calls-lisp`.

`search-lisp` (`M-?`) will search the current tags files, `lisp-directory` files or buffers in one of `lisp-source-modes` for a string or a regular expression when called with a prefix. `next-definition-lisp` (`M-,`) will find the next definition (or the previous definition with a prefix).

`replace-lisp` (`M-"`) will replace a string (or a regexp with a prefix) in the current tags files, `lisp-directory` files or buffers in one of `lisp-source-modes`.

Here is a summary of the above commands (behavior when given prefix argument is given in parentheses):

**M-x lisp-directory**

Define a set of files to be used by the source code commands.

**M-. (edit-definitions-lisp)**

Find definition of a symbol.

**M-, (next-definition-lisp)**

Find next (previous) definition.

**C-z ^ (edit-callers-lisp)**

Find all callers of a function, and edit the first.

**M-` (next-caller-lisp)**

Edit next (previous) caller of function set by `edit-callers-lisp`.

**M-x who-calls-lisp**

List all the callers of a function.

**M-? (search-lisp)**

Search for string (regular expression) in current tags, `lisp-directory` files or buffers. Use `next-definition-lisp` to find next occurrence.

**M-" (replace-lisp)**

Replace a string (regular expression) in files.

## 4.7 Batch commands

The following commands all deal with making a number of changes all at once. The first time one of these commands is used, there may be some delay as the module is loaded. The eval/compile versions of these commands are always executed asynchronously.

`mark-change-lisp` (`C-z SPC`) marks the current defun as being changed. A prefix causes it to be unmarked. `clear-changes-lisp` (`C-z * 0`) will clear all of the changes. `list-changes-lisp` (`C-z * 1`) will show the forms currently marked.

`eval-changes-lisp` (`C-z * e`), or `compile-changes-lisp` (`C-z * c`) will evaluate or compile these changes as appropriate. If called with a positive prefix, the changes will be kept. If there is an error, the process will stop and show the error and all remaining changes will remain in the list. All of the results will be kept in the buffer `*Last-Changes*`.

Summary:

**C-z SPC (mark-change-lisp)**

Mark (unmark) current defun as changed.

**C-z \* e (eval-changes-lisp)****C-z \* c (compile-changes-lisp)**

Call with a positive prefix to keep changes.

**C-z \* 0 (clear-changes-lisp)****C-z \* 1 (list-changes-lisp)**

## 4.8 Files and directories

File commands in lisp-source-mode buffers keep track of the last used directory and file. If the point is on a string, that will be the default if the file exists. If the buffer is one of `lisp-source-modes`, the buffer file will be the default. Otherwise, the last file used in a lisp-source-mode will be used.

**C-x C-f** (*find-file-lisp*)

will find a file. If it is in a string, that will be used as the default if it matches an existing file. Symbolic links are expanded so that different references to the same file will end up with the same buffer.

**C-z l** (*load-file-lisp*)

will load a file into the inferior LISP. You will be given the opportunity to save the buffer if it has changed and to compile the file if the compiled version is older than the current version.

**C-z k** (*compile-file-lisp*)

will compile a file in the current inferior LISP.

**C-z !** (*default-directory-lisp*)

sets the default inferior LISP directory to the directory of the current buffer. If called in an inferior LISP buffer, it sets the Emacs `default-directory` to the LISP default directory.

## 4.9 Switching between interactive and raw keyboard modes

There are two keyboard modes for interacting with the inferior LISP, `\interactive\` and `\raw\`. Normally you are in interactive mode where keys are interpreted as commands to EMACS and nothing is sent to the inferior LISP unless a specific command does so. In raw mode, all characters are passed directly to the inferior LISP without any interpretation as EMACS commands. Keys will not be echoed unless `ilisp-raw-echo` is T.

Raw mode can be turned on interactively by the command `raw-keys-ilisp` (**C-z #**) and will continue until you type **C-g**. Raw mode can also be turned on/off by inferior LISP functions if the command `io-bridge-ilisp` (**M-x io-bridge-ilisp**) has been executed in the inferior LISP either interactively or on a hook. To turn on raw mode, a function should print `^[1^` and to turn it off should print `^[0^`. An example in Common LISP would be:

```
(progn (format t "æ1Æ") (print (read-char)) (format t "æ0Æ"))
```

## 4.10 Interrupts, aborts, and errors

If you want to abort the last command you can use **C-g**.

If you want to abort all commands, you should use the command `abort-commands-lisp` (**C-z g**). Commands that are aborted will be put in the buffer `*Aborted Commands*` so that you can see what was aborted. If you want to abort the currently running top-level command, use `interrupt-subjob-ilisp` (**C-c C-c**). As a last resort, **M-x panic-lisp** will reset the ILISP state without affecting the inferior LISP so that you can see what is happening.

`delete-char-or-pop-ilisp` (**C-d**) will delete prefix characters unless you are at the end of an ILISP buffer in which case it will pop one level in the break loop.

`reset-ilisp`, (`C-z z`) will reset the current inferior LISP's top-level so that it will no longer be in a break loop.

Summary:

`C-c C-c` (*interrupt-subjob-ilisp*)

Send a keyboard interrupt signal to lisp.

`C-z g` (*abort-commands-lisp*)

Abort all running or unsend commands.

`M-x panic-lisp` (*panic-lisp*)

Reset the ILISP process state.

`C-z z` (*reset-ilisp*)

Reset lisp to top-level.

`C-d` (*delete-char-or-pop-ilisp*)

If at end of buffer, pop a level in break loop.

If `lisp-wait-p` is `nil` (the default), all sends are done asynchronously and the results will be brought up only if there is more than one line or there is an error. In case, you will be given the option of ignoring the error, keeping it in another buffer or keeping it and aborting all pending sends. If there is not a command already running in the inferior LISP, you can preserve the break loop. If called with a negative prefix, the sense of `lisp-wait-p` will be inverted for the next command.

## 4.11 Command history

ILISP mode is built on top of `comint-mode`, the general command-interpret-in-a-buffer mode. As such, it inherits many commands and features from this, including a command history mechanism.

Each ILISP buffer has a command history associated with it. Commands that do not match `ilisp-filter-regexp` and that are longer than `ilisp-filter-length` and that do not match the immediately prior command will be added to this history.

`M-n` (*comint-next-input*)

`M-p` (*comint-previous-input*)

Cycle through the input history.

`M-s` (*comint-previous-similar-input*)

Cycle through input that has the string typed so far as a prefix.

`M-N` (*comint-psearch-input*)

Search forwards for prompt.

`M-P` (*comint-msearch-input*)

Search backwards for prompt.

`C-c R` (*comint-msearch-input-matching*)

Search backwards for occurrence of prompt followed by string which is prompted for (*not* a regular expression).

See `comint-mode` documentation for more information on 'comint' commands.

## 4.12 Completion

Commands to reduce number of keystrokes.

### *M-TAB (complete-lisp)*

will try to complete the previous symbol in the current inferior LISP. Partial completion is supported unless `ilisp-prefix-match` is set to `t`. (If you set it to `t`, inferior LISP completions will be faster.) With partial completion, ‘`p--n`’ would complete to ‘`position-if-not`’ in Common LISP. If the symbol follows a left paren or a ‘`#`’, only symbols with function cells will be considered. If the symbol starts with a ‘`*`’ or you call with a positive prefix all possible completions will be considered. Only external symbols are considered if there is a package qualification with only one colon. The first time you try to complete a string the longest common substring will be inserted and the cursor will be left on the point of ambiguity. If you try to complete again, you can see the possible completions. If you are in a string, then filename completion will be done instead. And if you try to complete a filename twice, you will see a list of possible completions. Filename components are completed individually, so ‘`/u/mi/`’ could expand to ‘`/usr/misc/`’. If you complete with a negative prefix, the most recent completion (symbol or filename) will be undone.

### *M-RET (complete)*

will complete the current symbol to the most recently seen symbol in Emacs that matches what you have typed so far. Executing it repeatedly will cycle through potential matches. This is from the TMC completion package and there may be some delay as it is initially loaded.

## 4.13 Miscellany

Indentation, parenthesis balancing, and comment commands.

### *TAB (indent-line-ilisp)*

indents for LISP. With prefix, shifts rest of expression rigidly with the current line.

### *M-C-q (indent-sexp-ilisp)*

will indent each line in the next sexp.

### *M-q (reindent-lisp)*

will reindent the current paragraph if in a comment or string. Otherwise it will close the containing defun and reindent it.

### *C-z ; (comment-region-lisp)*

will put prefix copies of `comment-start` before and `comment-end`’s after the lines in region. To uncomment a region, use a minus prefix.

### *C-z ) (find-unbalanced-lisp)*

will find unbalanced parens in the current buffer. When called with a prefix it will look in the current region.

### *] (close-all-lisp)*

will close all outstanding parens back to the containing form, or a previous left bracket which will be converted to a left parens. If there are too many parens,

they will be deleted unless there is text between the last paren and the end of the defun. If called with a prefix, all open left brackets will be closed.



## 5 ILISP Customization

Starting a dialect runs the hooks on `comint-mode-hook` and `ilisp-mode-hook` and then *DIALECT*-hooks specific to dialects in the nesting order below.

```

clisp
  allegro
  lucid
  kcl
    akcl
    ibcl
  cmulisp
scheme
oaklisp

```

On the very first prompt in the inferior LISP, the hooks on `ilisp-init-hook` are run. For more information on creating a new dialect or variables to set in hooks, see `ilisp.el`.

ILISP Mode Hooks:

```

ilisp-site-hook
  Executed when file is loaded

ilisp-load-hook
  Executed when file is loaded

ilisp-mode-hook
  Executed when an ilisp buffer is created

ilisp-init-hook
  Executed after inferior LISP is initialized and the first prompt is seen.

DIALECT-hook
  Executed when dialect is set

```

Variables you might want to set in a hook or dialect:

```

ilisp-prefix
  Keys to prefix ilisp key bindings

ilisp-program
  Program to start for inferior LISP

ilisp-motd
  String printed on startup with version

lisp-wait-p
  Set to T for synchronous sends

lisp-no-popper
  Set to T to have all output in inferior LISP

lisp-show-status
  Set to nil to stop showing process status

ilisp-prefix-match
  Set to T if you do not want partial completion

```

`ilisp-filter-regex`

Input history filter

`ilisp-filter-length`

Input history minimum length

`ilisp-other-prompt`

Prompt for non- top-level read-eval print loops

## 6 Dialects

A *dialect* of lisp is a specific implementation. For the parts of Common Lisp which are well specified, they are usually the same. For the parts that are not (debugger, top-level loop, etc.), there is usually the same functionality but different commands.

ILISP provides the means to specify these differences so that the ILISP commands will use the specific command peculiar to an implementation, but still offer the same behavior with the same interface.

### 6.1 Defining new dialects

To define a new dialect use the macro `defdialect`. For examples, look at the dialect definitions in `ilisp.el`. There are hooks and variables for almost anything that you are likely to need to change. The relationship between dialects is hierarchical with the root values being defined in `setup-ilisp`. For a new dialect, you only need to change the variables that are different than in the parent dialect.

### 6.2 Writing new commands

Basic tools for creating new commands:

`deflocal` Define a new buffer local variable.

`ilisp-dialect`

List of dialect types. For specific dialect clauses.

`lisp-symbol`

Create a symbol.

`lisp-symbol-name`

Return a symbol's name

`lisp-symbol-delimiter`

Return a symbol's qualification

`lisp-symbol-package`

Return a symbol's package

`lisp-string-to-symbol`

Convert string to symbol

`lisp-symbol-to-string`

Convert symbol to string

`lisp-buffer-symbol`

Convert symbol to string qualified for buffer

`lisp-previous-symbol`

Return previous symbol

`lisp-previous-sexp`

Return previous sexp

`lisp-def-name`

Return name of current definition

`lisp-function-name`

Return previous function symbol

`ilisp-read`

Read an sexp with completion, arglist, etc

`ilisp-read-symbol`

Read a symbol or list with completion

`ilisp-completing-read`

Read from choices or list with completion

Notes:

- Special commands like `arglist` should use `ilisp-send` to send a message to the inferior LISP.
- Eval/compile commands should use `eval-region-lisp` or `compile-region-lisp`.

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