

Platform-Related Issues

Igor Pro runs on Macintosh and Windows. This chapter contains information that is platform-specific and also information for people who use Igor on both platforms.

Windows-Specific Issues

On Windows, the name of the Igor program file must be “Igor64.exe” for the 64-bit version of Igor or “Igor.exe” for the 32-bit version, exactly. If you change the name, Igor extensions will not work because they will be unable to find Igor.

Cross-Platform File Compatibility

Version 3.1 was the first version of Igor Pro that ran on Windows as well as Macintosh.

Crossing Platforms

When crossing from one platform to another, page setups are only partially translated. Igor tries to preserve the page orientation and margins.

When crossing platforms, Igor attempts to do font substitution where necessary. If Igor can not determine an appropriate font it displays the font substitution dialog where you can choose the font.

Platform-specific picture formats are displayed as gray boxes when you attempt to display them on the non-native platform. Windows Metafile, Enhanced Metafile, and Windows bitmap (BMP) pictures are supported on Windows only and appear as gray boxes on Macintosh.

The EPS, PNG, JPEG, TIFF, and SVG formats are platform-independent and are displayed on both platforms.

Prior to Igor Pro 9.00, PDF pictures were supported on Macintosh only and appeared as gray boxes on Windows. Now Igor can display PDF pictures on both platforms.

Transferring Files Using File Transfer Programs

Some transfer programs offer the option of translating file formats as they transfer the program from one computer to another. This translation usually consists of replacing each carriage return character with a carriage return/linefeed pair (Macintosh to Windows) or vice-versa (Windows to Macintosh). This is called a “text mode” transfer, as opposed to a “binary mode” transfer. This translation is appropriate for plain text files only. In Igor, plain text notebooks, procedure files, and Igor Text data files are plain text. All other files are not plain text and will be corrupted if you transfer in text mode. If you get flaky results after transferring a file, transfer it again making sure text mode is off.

If you have a problem opening a binary file after doing a transfer, compare the number of bytes in the file on both computers. If they are not the same, the transfer has corrupted the file.

File Name Extensions, File Types, and Creator Codes

This table shows the file name extension and corresponding Macintosh file type for Igor Pro files:

| Extension | File Type | What's in the File |
|-----------|-----------|--|
| .pxp | IGsU | Packed experiment file |
| .pxt | IGsS | Packed experiment template (stationery) |
| .uxp | IGSU | Unpacked experiment file |
| .uxt | IGSS | Unpacked experiment template (stationery) |
| .ifn | WMT0 | Igor formatted notebook (last character is zero) |