Building a better Clojure REPL

Cosmin Stejerean

@offbytwo

Problems with the standard REPL

No line editing

No external editor

No tab completion

No Ctrl-C handling

No history

No useful shortcuts

Lack of color

Building a better solution

What is a REPL?

Read Eval Print Loop

```
while (true) {
    input = read();
    if (input == null) {
        continue;
    output = eval(input);
    print(output);
```

Handling input / output

jline 2

github.com/jline/jline2

jansi

jansi.fusesource.org

new ConsoleReader()

RT.readString(reader.readLine("=>"))

Handling history

```
String home = getProperty("user.home");
histFile = new File(home, ".repl_history");
reader.setHistory(new FileHistory(histFile));
```

Tab completion

clojure-complete

github.com/ninjudd/clojure-complete

reader.addCompleter(new	ClojureCompleter());

```
public class ClojureCompleter {
    private Var completions;
    private Var eval;
    public ClojureCompletionWrapper() {
        RT.load("complete");
        this.eval = RT.var("clojure.core", "eval");
        this.completions = RT.var("complete", "completions");
    }
    public List<String> getCompletionsForString(String toComplete) {
        List<String> returnThis = new ArrayList<String>();
        LazySeq results = completions.invoke(toComplete);
        for (Object result : asList(results.toArray())) {
            returnThis.add((String) result);
        return returnThis;
```

Bells & whistles

Useful shortcuts

View docs

```
?function => (doc function)
```

View source

```
??function => (source function)
```

nput / output caching

```
user[11]: (+ 2 2)
user [11] = 4
user[12]: (input 11)
user[12] = (+ 2 2)
user[13]: (output 11)
user[13] = 4
```

Java interop

Find classes by name

class-finder

github.com/cosmin/class-finder

Find classes by name

```
java.util.regex.Pattern
%f *Set java.util
java.util.HashSet
java.util.LinkedHashSet
```

%f Pattern

Inspect Java objects

```
reader.
     print(CharSequence s)
                                         void
re println()
                                         void
  m h killLine()
                                      boolean
  m a setCursorPosition (int posi...
                                      boolean

    ⊕ equals (Object)

                                      boolean
ne a getClass()
                                     Class<?>
  m 🚡 hashCode ()
                                          int
prim a notify()
                                         void
lom a notifyAll()
                                         void
re m = toString()
                                       String
  🛅 🚡 wait ()
                                         void π
tcii (IUEXCEPTIUII e)
```

Inspect Java objects

```
%d name
<init> java.lang.String()
...
static String valueOf(int)
...
char charAt(int)
...
```

Nicer stacktraces

```
java.lang.NullPointerException: null

Reflector.java:314 clojure.lang.Reflector.invokeNoArgInstanceMember
(Unknown Source) user/eval326

Compiler.java:6469 clojure.lang.Compiler.eval
Compiler.java:6435 clojure.lang.Compiler.eval
IClojureRepl.java:117 com.offbytwo.iclojure.repl.IClojureRepl.eval
IClojureRepl.java:152 com.offbytwo.iclojure.repl.IClojureRepl.loop
Main.java:63 com.offbytwo.iclojure.Main.main
(Unknown Source) sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.invoke0
NativeMethodAccessorImpl.java:39 sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.invoke
DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl.java:25 sun.reflect.DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl.invoke
Method.java:597 java.lang.reflect.Method.invoke
ExecJavaMojo.java:297 org.codehaus.mojo.exec.ExecJavaMojo$1.run
Thread.java:680 java.lang.Thread.run
```

NullPointerException: null

Ctrl-C handling

```
public class ControlCSignalHandler
             implements SignalHandler {
    public void install() {
        Signal signal = new Signal("INT");
        Signal.handle(signal, this);
    public void handle(Signal signal) {
        repl.abortCurrentRead();
```

The result?

Clojure

iclojure.com

Also supports

clojure-maven-plugin

leiningen

Next steps

External editor

Runtime.exec()

Native wrapper?

jark

icylisper.in/jark/

Downloads

	X86	AMD64	SPARC
GNU/Linux	0.4-pre	0.4-pre (300 KB)	
Darwin (Mac OS X)	0.4-pre	0.4-pre (900 KB)	
FreeBSD	0.4-pre	0.4-pre	
NetBSD	0.4-pre	0.4-pre	
Solaris			
Windows	0.4-pre	0.4-pre	

Smarter completions

Read incomplete forms

(import 'java.util

(def name "Cosmin")

(. name toL

```
(let [inc2 #(+ %1 2)]
(in
```

clojure-reader

github.com/cosmin/clojure-reader

Cosmin Stejerean offbytwo