What are attachments?

Attachments are UNIX programs that run in close cooperation with xwaves. In fact they will not be anything useful if xwaves is not running. In general attachments are used to perform tasks that require a specific user-interface that cannot be realized with xwaves alone. These tasks require transfer of information from xwaves to the attachment. The communication with xwaves is done through the X server, using a communications protocol that is compatible with Tcl/Tk.

At the moment there are four standard attachments: xlabel, xspectrum, xmarks and xchart. These will be described in this part of the manual.

An attachment can be started from xwaves by the command:

    attach function <name of attachment>

or by clicking on the appropriate button in the Attach: field in the main control panel of xwaves. It can also be started from the UNIX command line by typing in its name. In this case you may have to worry about the command line options. The attachments are stopped when xwaves stops.

It is possible to write your own attachment-like programs by using the SendXwavesReply() (3-ESPS) and SendXwavesNoReply() (3-ESPS) function calls and thus obtain variables from xwaves.
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