

Re: FreeBSD5.4 – GUI fails

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/questions/2005-12/msg01111.html>

- *From:* Lowell Gilbert <freebsd-questions-local@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 11 Dec 2005 18:05:22 -0500
-

arnuld <arnuld.fraser@xxxxxxxx> writes:

- > I will be as brief as i can on explaining my problem:
- >
- > 1.) here is my architecture:
- >
- > i.) AMD64 -> processor
- > ii.) ASUS K8V-MX -> motherboard
- > iii.) LG 17" Studioworks 775N -> monitor
- > HorizSyns = 30-70 kHz
- > Vertsync = 50-160 Hz
- > Resolution Max. = 1280x1024 @ 60 Hz
- >
- > IV.) i do not know about video-card but when FC-4 installation uses
- > "anaconda" to
- > probe the video-card of my system, it shows: vesa driver
- > (generic)

Okay, that sounds fine.

- >
- > 2.) I have "FreeBSD-5.4 CDs for x86" architecture. regarding this i posted
- > the question on FreeBSD mailing-list & many
- > people told me that these same CDs will work on AMD64 because AMD64 is
- > backward compatible with 32 bit
- > computing.

Correct.

- > 3.) PROBLEM:
- >
- > I tried to install it on my system and got the following results:
- >
- > i.) FreeBSD is installed (i did all ports/packages installation)
- > but some packages (total 6) could not be installed, it says "installation
- > failed", they are:
- >
- > a.) php
- > b.) apache

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- > c.) 1 more package related to apache
- > c.) apache-mod+perl
- > d.) bash
- > e.) 1 dependency of bash
- >
- > all of these raise "error-code 1". except these 6 everything else
- > like GNOME, KDE, emacs, xpdf, gv is installed without any problem

I don't believe you're intended to install *everything* on the CDs. Some of them seem to interfere with each other. You can always go back and install them later, so there is no reason to install anything until you *know* you want it.

The error code 1 doesn't mean anything; it's just the "make" program reporting that something reported an error to *it*. You need to look back a little farther to see the real problem, but in all likelihood, the problem is just that you installed too many things and they got in each other's way.

- > ii.) FreeBSD boots with login prompt: only in shell mode, no GUI at all. (in freeBSD handbook section 2.9.12 i came to know that X server configuration facility has been removed since 5.3 release, so i go to chapter 5 to configure X myself)
- >
- > iii.) I configure GUI by using: Xorg -configure. It creates a file named "xorg.conf.new" in my current directory which is root's home directory. Next if i try to: Xorg -config xorg.conf.new, my screen goes blank with the message "OUT OF FREQUENCY" & with message something like:
 - >
 - > Frequency:
 - > HF 75 Hz (i do know whether it is Hz, KHz or GHz)
 - > VF 60 Hz
 - > operating frequency:
 - > HF 30-70 Hz (again i do not know)
 - > VF 50-160 Hz
 - >
- > iv.) What i do is 1st add the lines "HorizSyncs 30-70, VertRefresh 50-160" (from monitor-manual) into monitor section & "Modes "1024x768" into display section of "xorg.conf.new" & then use the same command to configure it. it works & and shows a yellowish desktop with 1an X and X moves as i move my cursor.

Well, you at least have X running at that point. You may be able to optimize it, but deal with one problem at a time.

- > v.) Then i use "xdm" command to enter into GUI, of course it enters into GUI with prompt
- > box names "Welcome to 1" with login name & password , i enter both

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- > of then & then i press "enter". screen goes off
- > for a second and reappears with same "Welcome 1" box. I enter login
- > name and password again and same thing
- > happens. i press "ctrl+Alt+backspace" 2 times and go back to shell
- > mode.

For xdm and similar login managers, you need a .xsession script. If it exits, then the X server resets (so you want a script that doesn't exit). [If you don't have an .xsession, then the default script is in /usr/X11R6/lib/X11/xdm/Xsession, which "exec"s xsm, a simple X session manager. This means that the session gets reset as soon as xsm exits, which you can do from an on-screen menu.]

- > vi.) i came to know in section 5.7 that GNOME is disabled by
- > default,so i enable it by adding "gdm_enable="YES"
- > into "/etc/rc.conf" and then reboot my machine, after that i
- > again use "xdm" and same thing i explained in
- > previous step, happens. (but FreeBSD Handbook says "no further
- > configuration is required, after enabling GNOME,
- > it will work without any problem" BUT i do have a problem)

You are confusing gdm with Gnome. gdm is the Gnome login screen, but if you have a .xsession script, that is still what will get used to set up your X session. I believe that you need to put "gnome-session" into your .xsession.

- > vii.) I tried another thing (to use GNOME directly)as explained in
- > 'chapter 5" of FreeBSD handbook. i create ".xsession"
- > file rather than ".xinitc" (as freeBSD uses xdm). I put a line
- > "/usr/X11R6/bin/gnome-session" into it.
- >
- > then i enter into shell the following command
- >
- > # % echo "#!/bin/sh" > ~/.xsession"

I think the syntax in those directions assumes you are running an sh-style shell. The idea is to create a ~/.xsession file that contains the lines

```
#!/bin/sh
```

and

```
/usr/X11R6/bin/gnome-session
```

but you can do that with an editor if you want.

To use the sh-style syntax, just type "/bin/sh" and you'll be running sh instead of csh.

- > after pressing enter it says "/bin/sh: event not found". (i made a check
- > into /bin directory, "sh" file is present there). anyway i use "startx" and
- > it takes me to a yellowish desktop with one login shell and 2 xterm shells
- > (all are like bash shell). but no menu, no icons, no GNOME or real desktop
- > thing. i enter commands "emacs, ggv, gv etc.) and all of these application

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> open in GUI mode but it is disgusting. also icons of this desktop are too
> small to be seen.

Right. That's xsm.

> i reboot and the try xdm and same thing "Welcome to 1" as in "step v"
> happens but no GNOME. May you please help on this? Please tell me whether
> this is a hardware issue or do i need to do some configuration.

I think if you get the right .xsession file, as described through this
message, you will be well on your way.

freebsd-questions@xxxxxxxxxxx mailing list

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• **References:**

◆ **FreeBSD5.4 – GUI fails**

◇ From: arnuld

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