

General request: sync data between OS X and Linux / Ubuntu with unison

Issues:

- A compiled version of unison for OS X is available on github, but not for Linux / Ubuntu. This step-by-step instruction will guide you to compile the latter on your own.
- There is a remaining OS X related issue:  
„Unison not working after update to macOS Catalina from 10.15.3 to 10.15.4“, see:  
<https://github.com/bcpierce00/unison/issues/328#issuecomment-627555433>  
Unison will hang in connecting state; looks like you can't unlock your RSA key for the ssh connection. Usage of ssh-add works on some but not all installations as a workaround.

Step-by-step instruction and links for reference

OS X Catalina 10.15.4, Ubuntu 20.04, Unison 2.51.2 (ocaml 4.04.0)

\*) Get Unison for OS X

<https://github.com/bcpierce00/unison/releases>

see assets or

<https://github.com/bcpierce00/unison/releases/download/v2.51.2/Unison-2.51.2.OS.X.zip>

\*) Install on OS X

download, unzip and drag/drop into programs

\*) Get Unison sources

Just below the link mentioned above you find:

<https://github.com/bcpierce00/unison/archive/v2.51.2.zip>

or

<https://github.com/bcpierce00/unison/archive/v2.51.2.tar.gz>

\*) Unpack Unison sources

to a directory of your choice, in this example

./temp in your home directory

\*) Get ocaml

```
sudo apt install ocaml-nox # get the compiler
sudo apt install opam      # packet to get/set the required version of ocaml
opam init                  # initialise opam
opam switch create 4.04.0  # set ocaml version
eval $(opam env)           # set environment variables necessary for ocaml
ocamlc -v                  # verify ocaml version 4.04.0
```

Link for reference:

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/40898292/how-to-install-a-specific-version-of-ocaml-compiler-with-opam>

\*) Compile Unison

Switch to the directory you placed sources in, e.g.

```
cd /home/<you>/temp
make
```

You will find the Unison binary in ....temp/src/unison

Verify version:

```
cd src
./unison -version          #caveat: remember „./“, otherwise you will start unison in path ;-)
```

Expect response: unison version 2.51.2 (ocaml 4.04.0)

\*) Copy Unison to final destination

My way to avoid interference with Unison versions distributed by Ubuntu:

```
sudo cp ./unison /usr/bin/unison-2.51.2
```

\*) Make sure the right version of Unison is started on remote site

Edit your \*.prf files and add line:

```
servercmd=/usr/bin/unison-2.51.2
```

See Unison Manual for details on servercmd

You are done!

Remark:

Compile Unison version 2.51.2 (ocaml 4.08.01) for Linux

Follow above guidelines analogously, however you will have to patch the sources upfront compilation. See:

<https://github.com/bcpierce00/unison/issues/271>

<https://git.archlinux.org/svntogit/packages.git/tree/trunk/4.08-compatibility.patch?h=packages/unison>