
Subject: Re: widget_text

Posted by [J.D. Smith](#) on Fri, 12 Jun 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>
> Lisa Bryan (lbryan@arete-az.com) writes:
>
>> I've been experimenting with WIDGET_TEXT hoping to make a text box
>> which will show the user messages from anywhere in my application.
>
> ...[nice solution snipped]...
>
>> Is there a better way to avoid this work around?
>
> I don't think that is a work-around. I think you found
> the only real solution.
>
>> P.S. Is there really no way I can get rid of the frame around a text
>> box under Windows?!
>
> Not that I know of.
>
> Nice programming style, by the way. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David

Come now David, there's always a way!

How about a convenience routine such as:

```
pro add_message, state_ptr, message
  widget_control, (*state_ptr).text_box, set_value=message, /append

  ;; Find the last line in the text box
  nt=widget_info((*state_ptr).text_box, /TEXT_NUMBER)
  last_line=(widget_info((*state_ptr).text_box, TEXT_OFFSET_TO_XY=nt-1))[1]

  ;; Only adjust the scrolling if we've scrolled off the bottom
  if last_line lt (*state_ptr).box_ysize then return
  widget_control, (*state_ptr).text_box, set_text_top_line = $
    last_line-(*state_ptr).box_ysize+1
end
```

Note that this does **not** work with text widgets with /WRAP set (though see below), and that another state variable, box_ysize (the ysize of the text widget), in lieu

of your top_line variable, is required (...well, not strictly, since you could do a widget_info(/GEOMETRY,box) to find out the box's ysize -- but that's pretty inefficient). It will still work even if some inconsiderate application or user adds text without doing it nicely (i.e. incrementing your top_line variable).

Or, for an entirely magic way, at least on Linux, just set /WRAP on your text widget when created. That gives you this behaviour automatically... i.e. you don't have to go through the set_text_top_line business (in fact, that would fail), and the call:

```
widget_control, (*state_ptr).text_box, set_value = 'my text', /append
```

will do this all by itself. I'm not sure if this /WRAP solution works for all platforms, but it certainly is the easiest way. Just tested and it does not work on Windows v5.0.

Good Luck,

JD

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