
Subject: Re: Idl pointers/widget events

Posted by [mirko_vukovic](#) on Thu, 13 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <1998Aug13.100127@ssrl.slac.stanford.edu>, dhamilton@ssrl.slac.stanford.edu wrote:

```
> I am having a pointer problem. I use a pointer to maintain information from a
> widget event handler (as per David Fanning). However, despite the fact that
> the "info" structure which contains the pointer is passed successfully into
the
> container with "set_uvalue", the pointer itself becomes invalid. Is there
some
> problem with IDL for VMS or am I just doing something wrong?
>
> ptr = ptr_new({thing:thing, junk:junk})
> info = {stuff:stuff, ptr:ptr}
> widget_control, tlb, set_uvalue=info, /no_copy
> xmanager, "config", tlb, /no_block
>
> ...
>
> (now, in my event_handler "config_event":)
>
> widget_control, event.top, get_uvalue=info, /no_copy
>
> (at this point, "info" is a completely valid structure, and I can examine
> "info.stuff" to my heart's content. However, an attempt to reference
> "(*info.ptr)" results in crashing my program and an invalid pointer message.)
>
> I have also noticed some inconsistency with this problem between regular IDL
> and IDL/DE, which seems impossible. However, sometimes my code works in the
> development environment, but not in the regular command line. ?
>
> Thanks for your time and help
> Damian Hamilton, SLAC
>
```

Is your syntax correct. I would think that `*(info.ptr)` is the correct way for your setup.

BTW, without knowing the details of your application, I believe that what you should do is put `_everything_` into `info`, and make `info` a pointer, i.e.

```
> info = ptr_new({stuff:stuff, thing:thing, junk:junk})
> widget_control, tlb, set_uvalue=info
```

Since you are copying only the pointer address, there is no need to

use the /no_copy. That was the main point of using pointers. They eliminate the use of /no_copy in widget events, and thus, any changes you make to info, you do not need to restore it to the widgets uvalue at the end of the event routine.

mirko

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