Subject: Re: Slicer3 followup

Posted by thompson on Wed, 20 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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- > I am running IDL 5.1 on the SGI-Origin platform, and have noticed a couple
- > of things about the library routine "slicer3.pro"
- > (1) slicer3.pro contains the following call to XMANAGER with the /MODAL
- > keyword:
- > XMANAGER, 'Slicer3', wMainBase, EVENT_HANDLER='Viz3D_Event', \$
- > /MODAL, CLEANUP='Viz3D_KillMain'
- > However, in IDL 5.1, the /MODAL keyword in XMANAGER has been superseded by
- > a call to /MODAL in WIDGET BASE. Am not sure what side effects this will
- > cause, but at some point perhaps RSI should tidy this up.

I hope that the way RSI tidies this up is to change their mind and decide that /MODAL in XMANAGER isn't obsolete after all. As discussed previously in this newsgroup, the newly recommended way of using /MODAL in WIDGET_BASE does not provide some crucially important functionality that has always been available with XMANAGER.

I don't think your problem is caused by the /MODAL keyword, but RSI did give me some directions as to how to fix xmanager.pro in IDL/v5.1 and /v5.2. The fixed version is below. See if this solves your problems.

William Thompson

; Widgets.

CALLING SEQUENCE: XMANAGER [, Name, ID]

OPTIONAL INPUTS:

NAME: A string giving the name of the application that is being registered.

ID: The widget ID of the top level base of the new client.

KEYWORD PARAMETERS: BACKGROUND:

| PLEASE NOTE: This keyword is OBSOLETE. It's functionality | is provided by the TIMER keyword to the WIDGET_CONTROL | procedure.

CATCH: If TRUE, tells XMANAGER to use CATCH when dispatching widget events. If FALSE, CATCH is not used and execution halts on error. The default is TRUE. If CATCH is specified, the internal state of XMANAGER is updated and it returns immediately without taking any further action. CATCH is only effective if XMANAGER is blocking to dispatch errors. If active command line event dispatching is in use, it has no effect.

CLEANUP: This keyword contains a string that is the name of the routine called when the widget dies. If not specified, no routine is called. The cleanup routine must accept one parameter which is the widget id of the dying widget. This routine is set as the KILL_NOTIFY routine for the widget.

EVENT_HANDLER: The name of the event handling routine that is to be called when a widget event occurs in the registered application. If this keyword is not supplied, the Xmanager will construct a default name by adding the "_EVENT" suffix to the NAME argument. See below for a more detailed explanation.

GROUP_LEADER: The widget id of the group leader for the application being registered. When the leader dies, all widgets that have that leader will also die.

For example, a widget that views a help file for a demo widget would have that demo widget as it's leader. When the help widget is registered, it sets the keyword GROUP_LEADER to the widget id of the demo widget. If the demo widget is destroyed, the help widget led by the it would be killed by the XMANAGER.

JUST REG:

This keyword tells the manager to just register the widget but not to start doing the event processing. This is useful when you want to register a group of related top level widgets but need to regain control immediately afterwards.

NOTE: JUST_REG does not do the same thing as NO_BLOCK. This is explained in detail below under "SIDE EFFECTS".

MODAL:

| PLEASE NOTE: This keyword is OBSOLETE. It's functionality | is provided by the MODAL keyword to the WIDGET_BASE | procedure.

When this keyword is set, the widget that is being registered traps all events and desensitizes all the other widgets. It is useful when input from the user is necessary before continuing. Once the modal widget dies, the others are resensitized and the normal event processing is restored. XMANAGER is therefore using sensitivity to provide the illusion of modality. The WIDGET_BASE keyword is a newer IDL feature that provides the real thing.

NO_BLOCK: If set, tells XMANAGER that the registering client does not require XMANAGER to block if active command line event processing is available. If active command line event processing is available *AND* every current XMANAGER client specifies NO_BLOCK, then XMANAGER will not block and the user will have access to the command line while widget applications are running.

NOTE: NO_BLOCK does not do the same thing as JUST_REG. This is explained in detail below under "SIDE EFFECTS".

OUTPUTS:

No outputs.

COMMON BLOCKS:

MANAGED

XMANAGER LOCAL:

Common blocks used for module state maintenance. These common blocks are considered private to this module and should not

be referenced outside RSI supplied routines. They are subject to change without notice.

SIDE EFFECTS:

JUST_REG vs NO_BLOCK

Although their names imply a similar function, the JUST_REG and NO_BLOCK keywords perform very different services. It is important to understand what they do and how they differ.

JUST_REG tells XMANAGER that it should simply register a client and then return immediately. The result is that the client becomes known to XMANAGER, and that future calls to XMANAGER will take this client into account. Therefore, JUST_REG only controls how the registering call to XMANAGER should behave. The registered client can still be registered as requiring XMANAGER to block by not setting NO_BLOCK. In this case, future calls to XMANAGER will block.

; NO_BLOCK tells XMANAGER that the registered client does not ; require XMANAGER to block if the command processing front end ; is able to support active command line event processing (described ; below). XMANAGER remembers this attribute of the client until ; the client exits, even after the call to XMANAGER that registered the ; client returns. NO_BLOCK is just a "vote" on how XMANAGER should ; behave. The final decision is made by XMANAGER by considering the ; NO_BLOCK attributes of all of its current clients as well as the ; ability of the command front end in use to support the active command : line.

Blocking vs Non-blocking

The issue of blocking in XMANAGER requires some explanation. IDL places incoming widget events into a queue of pending events. The only way to get these events processed and dispatched is to call the WIDGET_EVENT function. Arranging for WIDGET_EVENT to be called properly is the primary job of XMANAGER. XMANAGER offers two different modes of operation:

- The first (outermost) XMANAGER processes events by calling WIDGET_EVENT as necessary until no managed clients remain on the screen. This is referred to as "blocking", because XMANAGER does not return to the caller until it is done, and the IDL command line is not available.
- XMANAGER does not block, and instead, the part of IDL that reads command input also watches for widget events

and calls WIDGET_EVENT as necessary while also reading command input. This is referred to as "non-blocking" or "active command line" mode.

The default is to block. However, if every currently active application specified the NO_BLOCK keyword to XMANAGER, non-blocking mode is used, if possible.

There are currently 5 separate IDL command input front end implementations:

- Apple Macintosh IDE
- Microsoft Windows IDE
- Motif IDE (Unix and VMS)
- Unix plain tty
- VMS plain tty

Except for the VMS plain tty, all of these front ends are able to support the non-blocking active command line. VMS users can have an active command line by using the IDLde interface. The decision on whether XMANAGER blocks to process widget events is determined by the following rules, in order of precedence:

- Use of the MODAL keyword will cause XMANAGER to block.
- Setting JUST_REG to 1 ensures that XMANAGER will not block.
- If using the VMS plain tty interface, XMANAGER will block.
- If none of the previous rules apply, XMANAGER will block if any of its currently active clients were registered without specifying NO_BLOCK. If NO_BLOCK is specified for every client, XMANAGER will not block and will instead return and allow active command line processing to take place.

When possible, applications should set the NO_BLOCK keyword. This allows the IDL command line to be active while events are being processed, which is highly desirable.

RESTRICTIONS:

The implementation of XMANAGER may change in the future. Details of its internal implementation must not be relied upon --- only its external definition can be considered stable.

XMANAGER uses several undocumented features provided by the internal WIDGET routines. These features are private to RSI, and are not guaranteed to remain in IDL or to remain unchanged. They exist only to support XMANAGER and should not be used elsewhere:

WIDGET CONTROL, /XMANAGER ACTIVE COMMAND

```
WIDGET CONTROL, /MODAL
WIDGET EVENT, /BREAK ON EXPOSE
WIDGET_EVENT, /EVENT_BREAK
WIDGET_EVENT, /XMANAGER_BLOCK
WIDGET_INFO, /XMANAGER_BLOCK
These features are undocumented because they are not considered
permanent. Research Systems reserves the right to remove or alter
these features at any time.
EXAMPLE USE:
To create a widget named Example that is just a base widget with a done
button using the XMANAGER you would do the following:
;----- first - the event handler routine -----;
  PRO example_event, ev ;this is the routine that
  :deals with the events in the
  ;example widget.
WIDGET CONTROL, ev.id, GET UVALUE = uv ;the uservalue is retrieved
   from the widget where the
  :event occurred
if(uv eq 'DONE') then $ ;if the event occurred in the
 WIDGET_CONTROL, ev.top, /DESTROY; done button then kill the
  END
         ;widget example
;----- second - the main routine -----;
  PRO example : this is the main routine
  ;that builds the widget and
  registers it with the Xmanager
base = WIDGET_BASE(TITLE = 'Example'); first the base is created
done = WIDGET_BUTTON(base, $ ;next the done button is
    TITLE = 'DONE', $ ;created and it's user value
    UVALUE = 'DONE') ;set to "DONE"
WIDGET_CONTROL, base, /REALIZE; the widget is realized
XManager, 'example', base ;finally the example widget
  ;is registered with the
  ;Xmanager
  END
```

notes: First the event handler routine is listed. The handler routine has the same name as the main routine with the characters "_event" added. If you would like to use another event handler name, you would need to pass it's name in as a string to the EVENT_HANDLER keyword. Also notice that the event routine is listed before the main routine. This is because the compiler will not compile the event routine if it was below the main routine. This is only needed if both routines reside in the same file and the file name is the same as the main routine name with the ".pro" extension added.

PROCEDURE:

When the first widget is registered, initialize the lists and then start processing events. Continue registering widgets and dispatching events until all the widgets have been destroyed. When a widget is killed, destroy all widgets that list the destroyed widget as their leader, if any.

RELATED FUNCTIONS AND PROCEDURES: XREGISTERED, XMTOOL

MODIFICATION HISTORY: Written by Steve Richards, November, 1990 SMR, Mar, 1991 Added a cleanup routine keyword to allow dying widgets to clean themselves up when dying.

SMR, May, 1991 Fixed a bug found by Diane Parchomchuk where an error occurred when registering a widget ight after destroying another.

SMR & ACY, July, 1991

Fixed a bug found by Debra Wolkovitch where lone widgets being destroyed and new ones created caused problems.

SMR, Sept, 1991 Changed cleanup to use the new WIDGET_INFO routine.

SMR & ACY, Oct, 1991

Fixed a bug where a background event that unregistered itself after a time would result in an XMANAGER error.

SMR, Mar. 1992 Changed XMANAGER to use enhanced widget functions for event processing.

SMR, Nov. 1992 Changed modal widget handling allowing nesting of modal widgets. The first modal desensitizes all current widgets and subsequent modals only desensitize the modal that called them.

JIY, Apr. 1993 Changed modal widget handling process to not run the event loop for nested modal widgets. Allowed for multiple modal widgets.

AB & SMR, 17 November 1993

Added ID validity checking to desensitizing of modal widgets to fix a bug where already dead widgets were being accessed.

DJE, Feb, 1995

Made it so that non-modal widgets created from a modal widget have

events processed in the modal widget's event loop. This fixes a bug where xmanager wouldn't return immediately if there was a modal widget somewhere in the nesting, even though a non-modal widget was being added. The nesting level could get _very_ deep. DJE, Apr 1995 Pass a local variable to WIDGET_EVENT in the MODAL case, instead of passing the common block variable modalList. This avoids a bug where modalList gets changed behind WIDGET_EVENT's back. DJE, Apr 1996 Changes for handling asynchronous widget event dispatching. Complete rewrite. Background tasks are no longer supported. The MODAL keyword is now obsolete. Added CATCH and BLOCK keywords. AB, May 1996 Made changes so that XMANAGER always blocks under VMS with the non-GUI interface. This is due to the fact that the SMG\$ system routines used by IDL in the plain tty case cannot support interleaving of X events with tty input. AB, 9 January 1997 Changed the meaning of the CATCH keyword so that catching is the default. Removed BLOCK and replaced with NO_BLOCK. Switched default action back to blocking from unblocking based on feedback from the IDL 5 beta. Added the ability to block only as long as a client without NO_BLOCK is running, and then revert to the active command line. AB, 10 February 1997 Cleaned up code to make it easier to understand and maintain. Also cleaned up the distinction between real modality (MODAL keyword to WIDGET BASE) and XMANAGER's older fake modality (MODAL keyword to XMANAGER), and fixed bugs in the current implementation of fake modality. William Thompson, 25-Nov-1998, GSFC Changed to allow CDS software to work in IDL/v5.1.1. PRO XmanagerPrintError ; Called when a client error is caught to print the error out for ; the user. Unfortunately no stack trace is available, but that's ; why XMANAGER, CATCH=0 exists. err = !err_string syserr = !syserr string printf, -2, format='(A, A)', !ERROR_STATE.MSG_PREFIX, \$ 'XMANAGER: Caught unexpected error from client application. Message follows...' help,/last_message **END**

```
; Makes sure all the widgets in the list of managed widgets are still
 ; valid, and removes those that aren't.
 COMMON managed, ids, $; IDs of widgets being managed
  names, $; and their names
 modalList; list of active modal widgets
 ; initialize the lists
 IF (NOT keyword set(ids)) THEN BEGIN
  ids = 0L
  names = 0
 ENDIF
 ; if the list is empty, it's valid
 IF (ids[0] EQ 0L) THEN RETURN
 ; which ones are valid?
 valid = where(widget_info(ids, /managed))
 ; build new lists from those that were valid in the old lists
 IF (valid[0] EQ -1) THEN BEGIN
  ids = 0L
  names = 0
 ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
  ids = ids[valid]
  names = names[valid]
 ENDELSE
END
PRO AddManagedWidget, name, id
 ; Adds the given widget with its name to the list of managed widgets
 ; The list of managed widgets is kept as a convenience for applications
 ; that want to register their functionality by name. For instance, an app
 ; may not want to bring up a particular dialog if there is already one up.
 ; They can find out if the dialog is running by calling the XREGISTERED
 : routine
 COMMON managed
 ValidateManagedWidgets
```

PRO ValidateManagedWidgets

```
IF (ids[0] EQ 0L) THEN BEGIN
  ; create new lists
  ids = [ id ]
  names = [ name ]
 ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
  ; insert at the beginning of the lists
  ids = [id, ids]
  names = [ name, names ]
 ENDELSE
END
FUNCTION LookupManagedWidget, name
 ; Returns the widget id of the named widget, or 0L if not found
 COMMON managed
 ValidateManagedWidgets
 IF (ids[0] NE 0L) THEN BEGIN
  found = where(names EQ name)
 IF (found[0] NE -1) THEN BEGIN
   RETURN, ids[found[0]]
  ENDIF
 ENDIF
 RETURN, 0L
END
PRO XUNREGISTER, corpse
 ; | PLEASE NOTE: This routine is OBSOLETE. It's functionality is |
 ; | is no longer necessary.
 ; This procedure used to remove a dead widget from the Xmanagers common
 ; block, but that information is now maintained internally by IDL.
 COMMON XUNREGISTER_OBSOLETE, obsolete
 IF (NOT keyword_set(obsolete)) THEN BEGIN
  obsolete = 1
  message, /info, 'this routine is obsolete'
 END
```

; Might as well validate the list now (even though it would happen later) ValidateManagedWidgets

END

PRO XMANAGER EVLOOP STANDARD

- ; This is the standard XMANAGER event loop. It works by dispatching
- ; events for all managed widgets until there are none left that require
- ; blocking. In the best case, the command line is able to dispatch events
- ; and there are no clients that require blocking (specified via the
- ; NO_BLOCK keyword to XMANAGER) and we are able to return immediately.

COMMON xmanager_local, fake_modal_obsolete, xmanager_catch

; WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details. active = widget_info(/XMANAGER_BLOCK)

WHILE (active NE 0) DO BEGIN

err = 0

IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, err

IF (err EQ 0) THEN BEGIN

; WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.

tmp = widget_event(/XMANAGER_BLOCK)

ENDIF ELSE XmanagerPrintError

IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, /cancel

; WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.

active = widget info(/XMANAGER BLOCK)

ENDWHILE

FND

PRO XMANAGER_EVLOOP_REAL_MODAL, modal_id

- ; This version of the XMANAGER event loop is used when a client with
- ; the MODAL keyword set on its TLB has been passed in. It dispatches
- events for that client until it is done. Events for other clients
- are also flushed at critical points so that expose events are not
- ; delayed unnecessarily.

COMMON xmanager_local

```
active = 1
 WHILE (active NE 0) DO BEGIN
  err = 0
  IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, err
   IF (err EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
    ; WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.
    tmp = widget_event(MODAL_ID, bad_id=bad, /BREAK_ON_EXPOSE)
   ENDIF ELSE XmanagerPrintError
   IF (xmanager catch) THEN catch, /cancel
   active = widget info(MODAL ID, /managed)
   ; Modal event handling returned. Flush events for other widgets
   ; so we do not keep expose events (among others) blocked.
   IF (active) THEN BEGIN
    err = 0
    IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, err
    IF (err EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
     tmp = widget event(/NOWAIT)
    ENDIF ELSE XmanagerPrintError
    IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, /cancel
   ENDIF
 ENDWHILE
END
PRO XMANAGER_EVLOOP_FAKE_MODAL, ID
 ; This version of the XMANAGER event loop is used when a client is
 ; registered with the MODAL keyword to XMANAGER. It fakes the appearance
 ; of real modality by making the other existing clients insensitive while
 ; the modal widget exists.
 COMMON managed
 COMMON xmanager_local
 : Remember the current modal list so it can be restored afterwards
 oldModalList = modalList
 modalList = [ID]
 : WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.
 This line was commented out, as advised by RSI.
 WIDGET_CONTROL, ID, /MODAL
 ; Get list of clients that should be desensitized to mimic modality.
 ; If this is the outermost modal, then the list of all currently
 ; managed widgets is used. If this is a nested inner modal, then
```

```
; use the oldModalList.
IF (keyword set(oldModalList)) THEN BEGIN
 senslist = oldModalList
ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
 WIDGET_CONTROL, ID, managed=0; So won't show up in following statement
 senslist = WIDGET_INFO(/MANAGED)
 WIDGET CONTROL, ID, /MANAGED
                                       : Put it back
ENDELSE
for i = 0, n elements(senslist) - 1 do $
 WIDGET CONTROL, BAD ID=ignore bad, senslist[i], SENSITIVE=0
; Process events only for clients in the modal list. This list may gain
; members if event processing leads to other applications being registered
; via a recursive call to XMANAGER.
tmp = where(widget_info(modalList, /managed), active)
WHILE (active NE 0) DO BEGIN
 err = 0
 IF (xmanager catch) THEN catch, err
 tmp = modalList
 IF (err EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
  ; WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.
  tmp = widget_event(tmp, bad_id=bad, /BREAK_ON_EXPOSE)
 ENDIF ELSE XmanagerPrintError
 IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, /cancel
 tmp = where(widget_info(modalList, /managed), active)
 IF (active NE 0) THEN modalList = modalList[tmp]
 ; Modal event handling returned, flush events for other widgets
  if any so we do not keep expose events etc. blocked
 IF (active) THEN BEGIN
  err = 0
  IF (xmanager_catch) THEN catch, err
  IF (err EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
   tmp = widget event(/NOWAIT)
  ENDIF ELSE XmanagerPrintError
  IF (xmanager catch) THEN catch, /cancel
 ENDIF
ENDWHILE
for i = 0, n_elements(senslist) - 1 do $
 WIDGET CONTROL, BAD ID=ignore bad, senslist[i], /SENSITIVE
; restore the outer XMANAGER's list of modal widgets
modalList = oldModalList
```

```
PRO XMANAGER, NAME, ID, BACKGROUND = background, CATCH = catch, $
 CLEANUP = cleanup, EVENT HANDLER = event handler, $
 GROUP_LEADER = group_leader, JUST_REG = just_reg, $
 MODAL = modal, NO BLOCK = no block
 COMMON managed
 COMMON xmanager local
 isFakeModal = keyword_set(modal)
 ; print out obsolete keyword messages
 IF (keyword set(background)) THEN BEGIN
  message, "The BACKGROUND keyword to the XMANAGER procedure is " + $
   "obsolete. It is superseded by the TIMER keyword to " + $
   "the WIDGET CONTROL procedure.", /info
 ENDIF
 IF (isFakeModal AND (NOT keyword_set(fake_modal_obsolete))) THEN BEGIN
  fake modal obsolete = 1
  message, "The MODAL keyword to the XMANAGER procedure is " + $
   "obsolete. It is superseded by the MODAL keyword to " + $
   "the WIDGET_BASE function.", /info
 ENDIF
 : Initialization
 if (n_elements(catch) ne 0) THEN BEGIN
  xmanager_catch = catch ne 0
  message, /INFO, 'Error handling is now ' + (['off', 'on'])[xmanager_catch]
  return
 ENDIF ELSE if (n_elements(xmanager_catch) EQ 0) then xmanager_catch = 1;
 isRealModal = 0
 if (N ELEMENTS(just reg) eq 0) then just reg = 0
 IF (isFakeModal) THEN just reg = 0;
 IF (NOT keyword set(modalList)) THEN modalList = 0
 ValidateManagedWidgets
 ; Argument setup
 if (N PARAMS() EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
  IF (ids[0] EQ 0L) THEN BEGIN
   message, 'No widgets are currently being managed.', /info
   RETURN
```

```
ENDIF ELSE IF (N PARAMS() NE 2) THEN BEGIN
 message, 'Wrong number of arguments, usage: XMANAGER [, name, id]'
ENDIF ELSE BEGIN; 2 argument case
 ; Check the arguments
 IF (NOT widget info(id, /valid)) THEN message, 'Invalid widget ID.'
 nameinfo = size(name)
 IF ((nameinfo[0] NE 0) OR (nameinfo[1] NE 7)) THEN $
  message, 'Invalid widget name,'
 ; If TLB is modal, block in XMANAGER till you are done
 IF (widget_info(id, /Modal)) THEN isRealModal = 1
IF (keyword_set(cleanup)) THEN widget_control, id, kill_notify=cleanup
 IF (NOT keyword set(event handler)) THEN event handler = name + ' event'
 ; Register new widget
 AddManagedWidget, name, id
 ; Mark the widget for event processing
 widget_control, id, /managed, event_pro=event_handler
 ; Unless the caller set NO_BLOCK to indicate otherwise, mark
 this client as requiring XMANAGER to block. This decision is driven
  by backward compatibility concerns. During the IDL 5.0 beta we discovered
  that many customers have code that depends on the blocking behavior.
  WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.
 if keyword set(no block) then WIDGET CONTROL, /XMANAGER ACTIVE COMMAND, id
 : pass the group leader keyword through
 IF (keyword_set(group_leader)) THEN $
  widget_control, id, group_leader=group_leader
 ; Modal Widget Registration
 IF (keyword set(modalList) and (not isFakeModal)) THEN BEGIN
  ; This client is a non-modal widget, being started while a
  : fake modal is already up. Just add the new widget to the modal
  ; list and return immediately. The fake modal event loop will
  : dispatch its events as well as the modal clients.
  modalList = [ modalList, ID ]
  just reg = 1; Don't process events. Instead, return immediately
```

ENDIF

; need to break out of the outer widget_event call so that the

; outer xmanager can see that outmodal has changed

; WARNING: Undocumented feature. See RESTRICTIONS above for details.

widget_control, /event_break

ENDIF ; modal

ENDELSE; 2 argument case

; Event Processing.

IF (NOT just_reg) THEN BEGIN

IF (isRealModal) THEN BEGIN

XMANAGER_EVLOOP_REAL_MODAL, ID

ENDIF ELSE IF isFakeModal THEN BEGIN

XMANAGER_EVLOOP_FAKE_MODAL, ID

ENDIF ELSE BEGIN

XMANAGER_EVLOOP_STANDARD

ENDELSE

; keep our list clean and up to date ValidateManagedWidgets

ENDIF

END