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Subject: Re: Beginners question on widgets  
Posted by [David Foster](#) on Thu, 18 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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Christian Haas wrote:

>  
> Hi!  
>  
> I would like to write a larger widget application for medical imaging  
> purposes. Since I have no experience with IDL widgets yet I need to  
> know if there is an easy way of hiding and showing text and draw  
> widgets that all belong to one widget base without destroying and  
> realizing them each time.  
>  
> Please excuse for the simple question but I am really a beginner.  
>  
> Thank you in advance.  
>  
> Regards,  
> Christian  
>

Christian -

Actually this isn't necessarily an easy question. If you just want to hide and show widgets at various times, you can use

```
widget_control, wid_id, map=[0|1]
```

to map and unmap them. However, if you would like to have a way to use the same space in your widget program for several "menus", which are overlaid so you can map them one at a time, this is more difficult, and

I have yet to see the method documented anywhere (if anyone knows where please let me know!).

I wrote up a simple example program that demonstrates this method, and may help you as an example of widget programming techniques. You can get EXAMPLE.PRO from:

```
ftp://bial8.ucsd.edu/pub/software/idl/examples/
```

The IDL routine SLICER3.PRO also serves as an example, but it's much more complicated!

EXAMPLE() uses my GRAYSCALE() and POS\_WIDGET() routines, which you can get from:

[ftp://bial8.ucsd.edu/pub/software/idl/share/idl\\_share.tar.gz](ftp://bial8.ucsd.edu/pub/software/idl/share/idl_share.tar.gz)

Since you're working with medical imaging, you may want to check out the other routines here as well, as our work here is in medical imaging. The SHOW\_IMG program in particular may be useful for display of a wide variety of medical images (MR,CT,SPECT,PET). The README file lists the available routines.

Here is a collection of net resources for IDL that I have collected. Probably more than you want to look at right now, but this might come in handy sometime:

#### IDL Sources (FTP and Web)

[http://ds2iss.gsf.de:8081/Privat/IDL/idl\\_www\\_sites.html](http://ds2iss.gsf.de:8081/Privat/IDL/idl_www_sites.html) : IDL WWW Sites!!

<ftp://ftp.rsinc.com> : Research Systems (IDL) ftp site (IP: 192.5.156.21)

User-contributed routines : [pub/user\\_contrib](ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/user_contrib)  
Documentation: "Building IDL Applications":  
[ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/idl\\_5.1.1/info/docs/building.pdf](ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/idl_5.1.1/info/docs/building.pdf)

<http://www.iagusp.usp.br/~morisset/idl/index.html> : IDL Cookbook  
Ray Sterner's "Basic IDL Cookbook" Reference

<ftp://sohoftp.nascom.nasa.gov/solarsoft/gen/idl/> : Bill Thompson's Page  
Lots of routines! Categorized.

[http://www.mpae.gwdg.de/mpae\\_RZ/software/idl/](http://www.mpae.gwdg.de/mpae_RZ/software/idl/) : EMACS IDL mode

<http://fermi.jhuapl.edu/s1r/idl/idl.html> : Ray Sterner's Libraries

[http://www.va.ucsf.edu/mrs/IDL/idl\\_docs.htm](http://www.va.ucsf.edu/mrs/IDL/idl_docs.htm) : Advanced IDL Programming

<http://www.dfanning.com> : IDL Programming Web Page (David Fanning)  
[http://www.dfanning.com/documents/idl5\\_info.html#toc](http://www.dfanning.com/documents/idl5_info.html#toc) : IDL Anomolies

<ftp://friei.com/pub/dfanning/outgoing> : IDL Software (David Fanning)

<http://www.irc.chmcc.org/idl/philIDL.html> : Phil William's Page

<http://www.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield/gust/software/idl/> : Mark Hadfield's Page

<http://www.bell-labs.com/user/windt/idl/windt.html> : David Windt's stuff

<http://astrog.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html> : Craig Markwardt

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/frame.html> : Liam Gumley's Page (Frame Tools (multi-plot))

<http://www-as.harvard.edu/people/staff/mgs/idl/index.html> : Martin Schultz

<ftp://sr.bham.ac.uk/pub/sjt/graffer-1.05.tar.gz> : IDL Plot Tool (graffer)

[http://www.ivsoftware.com/pub/idl\\_faq.html](http://www.ivsoftware.com/pub/idl_faq.html) : IDL FAQ

<http://www.astro.washington.edu/deutsch/idl/htmlhelp/> : Eric Deutsch's Browser Page (Links/resources/search capabilities!)

[http://www.sljus.lu.se/stm/IDL/Surf\\_Tips/](http://www.sljus.lu.se/stm/IDL/Surf_Tips/) : Surface Plot Tutorial  
Struan Gray "Extending IDL's Surface Plotting Routines"

<http://ednet.gsfc.nasa.gov/Mathews/misc/idl-www.html> : IDL on the Web  
Using IDL on the Web. Contains Perl scripts for using IDL to generate GIFs which are then displayed on the web.

<http://www.grupoatlas.com/atlas/nn.htm> : Neural Network IDL Freeware

<http://sag-www.ssl.berkeley.edu/~korpela/mmap/> : VARRAY Utility  
Memory mapped files for IDL!  
korpela@islay.ssl.berkeley.edu (Eric J. Korpela)

<http://www.floating.co.uk/idl/dicom.html> : DICOM File Reader/Viewer!

[http://nw.demon.co.uk/floating/idl/idl\\_medical.html](http://nw.demon.co.uk/floating/idl/idl_medical.html) : Medical Imaging

#### Basics of IDL:

[ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/idl\\_5.1/info/docs/basics.pdf](ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/idl_5.1/info/docs/basics.pdf)  
[http://scv.bu.edu/SCV/Tutorials/IDL/idl\\_webtut.html](http://scv.bu.edu/SCV/Tutorials/IDL/idl_webtut.html)  
<http://zonker.ncsa.uiuc.edu/docs/viz/Idl/Training>

Hope this helps. Good luck!

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