
Subject: Re: Can I make entries in CW_PDMENU insensitive?

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 25 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Steffen Luesse wrote:

>
> Dear all,
>
> I am using IDL 5.2 on solaris 2.6. I want to use the CW_PDMENU routine
> to create a pull-down menu in my widget programs. In principle,
> everything works well. However, I am wondering if it is possible to make
> some menu entries insensitive like I can do it with buttons or sliders
> when they should not be used. I did not find any information about my
> problem in the IDL documentation and would appreciate if anybody could
> give me a hint.
>
> Thanks in advance,
>
> Steffen

Yes, they can be made insensitive just like any other widget. The trick is to know the widget id to make insensitive.

There is a keyword IDS to the CW_PDMENU routine which will return the ids of every menu button created. They are created in the order they are specified in the menu description. All you then have to do is match the id in the returned ids to the menu item you want to make insensitive.

Of course, if the menu description changes you need to alter the indexing into the returned ids to get the same button. A bug waiting to happen...

E.g given the following description :

```
menu_labels = [ {CW_PDMENU_S, 1, 'File'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'New data...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'Data def...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'Properties...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 2, 'Exit'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 1, 'Windows'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'Load...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'Save...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 2, 'Edit...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 1, 'Find'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 2, 'Time...'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 1, 'Print'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 1, 'File'}, $
                {CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'Laser...'}, $
```

```
{CW_PDMENU_S, 2, 'Colour...'}, $  
{CW_PDMENU_S, 1, 'Device'}, $  
{CW_PDMENU_S, 0, 'Laser'}, $  
{CW_PDMENU_S, 2, 'Colour'} ]
```

menu = CW_PDMENU(parent, menu_labels, IDS=menu_ids)

the variable menu_ids contains the widget ids of each menu item.

I can de-sensitize the Windows menu by :

```
WIDGET_CONTROL, menu_ids(5), SENSITIVE=0
```

There are ways to reduce the potential for getting the wrong widget id.
But I'll leave that as an exercise for the student... ;-).

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