
Subject: Re: Text Widget Confession

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 21 Sep 2001 17:28:47 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>
> Folks,
>
> Alright, I confess. Text widgets have always confused
> the hell out of me. And for years I have avoided using
> them, except in the very simplest way, and then only
> when I could find no alternative. (I've found mind-
> reading only partially successful.)
>
> Here is the deal. I have a text widget with
> a three-element string array in it:
>
> theText = ['Dog', 'Cow', 'Coyote']
>
> When displayed in the text widget it looks like this:
>
> Dog
> Cow
> Coyote
>
> I want to make a selection in the text widget.
> Then, when the user says "Do It", I want to
> delete any lines that are in the selection.
>
> For example, if the user selects the word "Cow"
> and clicks "Do It", I want to delete the second
> line in the text widget. If the user selects
> "g Cow", I want to delete the first two lines, etc.
>
> Pretty straightforward, don't you think?
>
> But I've been fooling around with this for two hours
> now and haven't come up with anything remotely useful.
>
> I can get the selection offset and length:
>
> selection = Widget_Info(textID, /Text_Select)
>
> In the case in which the word "Cow" is selected,
> the offset is 5 and the length of the selection
> is 3. An offset of 5!? Into what array?
>
> Check the number of characters in the text widget:

>
> numchar = Widget_Info(textID, /Text_Number)
>
> I get 18. Wait a minute. d-o-g-... I have 12
> characters. But I have three elements in my
> string array, and the longest of these elements
> is 6 characters. 3 times 6 = 18. Can it be!?
>
> No, I convert the text to a byte array and use
> the selection offsets and length to try to fish
> the selection out. No luck. An offset of 5
> still doesn't compute.
>
> OK, let's convert the offset to "column and line"
> values. That "line" business sounds promising.
>
> cl = Widget_Info(textID, Text_Offset_To_XY=selection[0])
> Print, cl
> 2 1
>
> Well, column equals 2 is confusing. But line 1 looks
> promising. I'm definitely in line 1!!! But, if I select
> "ow" instead of "Cow" I now get the values 0 and 2 for
> column and line. Sigh...
>
> Here is some example code I'm using to explore the
> possibilities. Does anyone have any ideas?
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>

Dear David,

I will explain what happens.

The text in the text widget if you set ysize=1 will be a long line of 'DogCowCoyote'.

Then if you click somewhere in the text you get the offset right back.

OK you like to have each word in a line, the smallest ysize could be 3.

Now Dog gets a linebreak character at the end, Cow and Coyote too.

That's the reason why you have at the end of Coyote an offset of 14 characters by linux. Windows has two characters 10b and 13b at each line this means an offset of about 16.

This makes it very difficult to use a text widget instead of the table or list widget.

I would prefer the list widget. It's very easy to exchange it in your code.

cheers

Reimar

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

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read something about linux / windows
<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>
