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Subject: Re: global variables in IDL

Posted by [Kristine Hensel](#) on Thu, 27 Dec 2001 01:39:56 GMT

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Gert wrote:

```
>
> David,
>
> thanks for the tip - I could off course do it this way, but then i need to
> pass the pointer around to anyone who might need it. What i wanted to is
>
> pro Widgetpro,
>
> widgetID = getIDofGlobalswidget
> WIDGET_CONTROL, widgetID , GET_UVALUE=sGlobals, /NO_COPY
>
> print, sGlobal.threshold
>
> ...
> end
>
> is this possible? How can I do the 'getIDofGlobalswidget'?
```

If your global widget is registered using XMANAGER, i.e.

xmanager, 'global widget', base\_id\_of\_global\_widget

then the name and ID are stored in the MANAGED common block, which is used by XREGISTERED.

To get the ID of the global widget, a calling procedure needs to use this common block:

```
COMMON MANAGED, ids, names, outermodal
```

You can then look through the list of registered names to find the widget(s) that you want:

```
validids = WHERE(ids ne 0, answer)
if (answer ne 0) then begin
    registered = WHERE(names(validids) EQ 'global widget', answer)
    if (answer ne 0) then begin
        registered = validids(registered)
                        ; get the IDs registered under this
                        ; name:
        global_ids = ids[registered]
    endif
endif
; name is registered?
; some valid IDs?
```

I use something like this for an error message widget. All (ahem) the error messages get stuck in the same widget, rather than popping up individual messages, and I use this code to figure out whether an error

message widget has already been opened or whether a new one should be created.

Kristine

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