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Subject: Re: Debugging w/widgets  
Posted by [sjt](#) on Thu, 17 Nov 1994 11:08:31 GMT  
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mallozzi@ssl.msfc.nasa.gov wrote:

: One of the strengths of IDL that I like is that I can use STOP  
: statements in my procedures/functions to examine local variables  
: for debugging purposes. I recently started to program with widgets, and  
: I find that STOP now stops in XMANAGER. This seems like a major step  
: backwards. What's the deal?

: mallozzi@ssl.msfc.nasa.gov

An explicit "on\_error,0" before creating the menus etc. will certainly  
allow a crashed program to stop at the place where the error happened.

However anything which hands control back to the terminal will  
inevitably screw up the XMANAGER so that you won't be able to use them.  
This is a consequence of the way in which the XMANAGER works:  
It's just an ordinary IDL library routine which looks for widget events  
and determines which widget sent them and then makes the corresponding  
call to the handler, so it has to be running and to have control in order  
to do this. I believe that RSI intend at some time in the indeterminate  
future to make it a built-in part of the interpreter in which case  
sharing control between the keyboard and the widgets would be possible  
(as is the case for the MAN\_PROC procedure).

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| James Tappin,      | School of Physics & Space Research | O__  |
| sjt@xun8.sr.bham.ac.uk | University of Birmingham      | -- V^ |
| "If all else fails--read the instructions!"      |      |
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