You would have to somehow record the fact that the widget has been
created. The simplest place for doing this is a Common block with a
specific name, where you can set a flag. There are alternatives that
have been discussed here before; a Google groups search for IDL global
variable would turn up quite a variety of answers.
Good luck,
Pavel

Ahammer Helmut wrote:
>
> Is there any possibility to open and realize a widget only once, even
> it is called several times? The widget is mainly a draw widget for
> images and is called from an other program or widget like this:
>
> DISPLAYIMAGE, Image = Image
>
> The first call, or if there is no such widget present, should really
> realize the widget. The second call should not realize a second
> widget, but only put the new data (image) to the draw widget.
> I think the /OVERPLOT keyword for IIMAGE does equivalently what I
> want, but I can`t follow the itools syntax for this feature.
>
> Thank you for every input,
> Helmut Ahammer