Subject: Re: modal widgets problem
Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 20 Apr 2004 19:24:05 GMT
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Benjamin Hornberger writes:

> I have a GUI called 'display_array_gui' which can display an array,
> change min and max values, colortables etc. From display_array_gui, I
> want to call a 'histogram_gui', which displays a histogram of the array,
> and I want to click into the histogram to adjust the min and max in
> display_array_gui.
>
> While histogram_gui is open, I want display_array_gui to be blocked from
> receiving input (e.g., its min and max fields, because they would
> interfere with the histogram). But when I click into the histogram, I
> want to have display_array_gui update its min and max for the display.
> The new min or max will be sent to display_array_gui through an event
> structure and widget_control, .., send_event = ...
>
> If I use the modal and group_leader keywords in histogram_gui's tlb, it
> will block display_array_gui, but the display update will be delayed
> until histogram_gui is closed. If I don't, then display_array_gui is not
> blocked and could in principle have parameters changed which would
> interfere with the histogram display.
>
> I tried to set display_array_gui's tlb to insensitive when histogram_gui
> is opened. That works in the first place, but seems quite unprofessional
> to me, and I haven't figured out yet how to make it sensitive again when
> histogram_gui is closed (I might find that out with some more trying).

Making the second widget program non-modal, and the first insensitive doesn't sound a bit unprofessional to me. It certainly gives a visual clue to the user about what is going on. An alternative would be to change the event handler (or handlers, if you have several) to a null event handler (accepts events, but does nothing with them) while the second program is on the display. But I think this is likely to confuse users. (Why does this button not work now, when it worked just a second a go!?). To make your program sensitive again, just set the SENSITIVE keyword to 1 with the WIDGET_CONTROL command.

Cheers,

David
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