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Subject: Re: timers without widgets

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Fri, 22 Apr 2005 23:08:25 GMT

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Benjamin Hornberger wrote:

> Rick Towler wrote:

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>> I understand that 95% of events are generated by a GUI but it would be

>> nice to have some sort of mechanism to handle the other 5%. Timers

>> and socket I/O come to mind.

>

>

> Socket I/O is exactly our problem. We use a timer to continuously

> (actually frequently rather than continuously) read from a socket to

> implement a listening socket. But there are many problems with that,

> like IDL not reacting while it tries to read (looks like crashed).

Does SOCKET not provide for non-blocking reads? I haven't really used it... That's too bad. I should add that to my list of feature requests for SOCKET.

> I guess IDL is just made for data analysis and not instrument control

> which involves interaction with device drivers and the OS on a deeper

> level :-{.

Yeah, I guess so. But that is too bad.

I had a similar project and had to use MATLAB. IDL's SOCKET doesn't support UDP and even if it did the blocking would have killed me. I used a free TCP/UDP library for MATLAB which doesn't provide for callbacks so you have to poll, but it doesn't block and MATLAB's timer is better.

-Rick

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