
Subject: Re: Creating and saving an iTool without displaying it
Posted by [Chris\[2\]](#) on Tue, 05 Sep 2006 18:35:57 GMT

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Hi Benjamin,

Yes, there is an undocumented keyword (it's actually documented under IDLitSys_CreateTool). If you set USER_INTERFACE="None", then it will not display any UI. For example:

```
iPlot, findgen(10), user_interface='none'  
idTool=itgetcurrent(tool=oTool)  
void = oTool->DoSetProperty('Operations/File/Save', 'filename', 'iplot.isv')  
void = oTool->DoAction('Operations/File/Save')  
void = oTool->DoAction('Operations/File/Exit')
```

Now before you run off and try this, there is a bug in IDL6.2 and IDL6.3 where the "Save" operation will not work correctly if there is no UI. Other operations such as "Print" and "Export" should work fine. For example, you could do the following instead:

```
; Print the window.  
; First disable the Print dialog.  
void = oTool->DoSetProperty('Operations/File/Print', 'SHOW_EXECUTION_UI', 0)  
void = oTool->DoAction('Operations/File/Print')  
  
; Export the window to a JPEG file.  
; First disable the Export wizard dialog.  
void = oTool->DoSetProperty('Operations/File/Export', 'SHOW_EXECUTION_UI',  
0)  
; Export the entire window.  
void = oTool->DoSetProperty('Operations/File/Export', 'SOURCE', 1)  
void = oTool->DoSetProperty('Operations/File/Export', 'FILENAME',  
'iplot.jpg')  
void = oTool->DoAction('Operations/File/Export')
```

We are planning on exposing this functionality in a future version of IDL, as well as fixing the bug with "Save".

-Chris Torrence
ITT Visual Information Solutions

"Benjamin Hornberger" <benjamin.hornberger@stonybrook.edu> wrote in message
news:44f733e9\$1_3@marge.ic.sunysb.edu...

> Hi all,
>

```
> I want to programmatically create an iTool and save it without user
> interaction. I could manage to do that (see below), but is it possible
> without having the tool pop up on the screen at all?
>
> IDL> iPlot,findgen(10)
> IDL> idTool=itgetcurrent(tool=oTool)
> IDL> idSave=oTool->findIdentifiers('*save',/operations,count=count) &
> print, count
>      1
> IDL> oSave=oTool->getByIdentifier(idSave)
> IDL> oSave->setProperty,filename='iplot.isv'
> IDL> print,oTool->doAction(idSave)
>      1
> IDL> idExit=oTool->findIdentifiers('*exit',/operations,count=count) &
> print,count
>      1
> IDL> print,oTool->doAction(idExit)
>      1
>
> Any clues? Thanks,
> Benjamin
```
