Subject: Re: Automatic button pressing:is there a way?
Posted by knighton on Mon, 02 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In <DFqv4I.K60@midway.uchicago.edu> rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu (Mark Rivers) writes:

> In article <30SEP199520411554@siva.bris.ac.uk>, phtmh@siva.bris.ac.uk (TOM HILLER)
writes:
>> I want to have my widget press one of its own buttons
>> at regular intervals, about once a second. Is this possible
>> in PV-WAVE 5.00b, on a SGI Power Challenge XL?
>>
snip, snip

> In IDL there are two ways you might achieve what you want to do:

> - Use widget timer events. You can get a timer event delivered to your event
>   handler every 1 second. You can recalculate your fit on receipt of these
>   events.

snip, snip

Some things to consider when using timer events:

1. A timer event only goes off once; therefore, the event handler must
 issue another one to have a recurring timer.

2. As far as I know, there is no way to turn the timer event off once it
 has been issued. Therefore, your event handler(s) must be able to deal
 with an event occurring after you decide to stop the timer. This can
 be done by setting up a "timer off " flag and checking it when timer
 events are processed.

3. Timer events are not particularly accurate, especially in a networked
 environment.

On a more general note, I have used timer events to do some cool things such as
giving a blink attribute to text and making an alarm widget that flashes on the
screen. I have been able to set numerous timers at once under HP-UX and
X-windows in a networked environment and they work great.

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