
Subject: Re: A problem with pickfile?

Posted by [j.flack](#) on Mon, 17 Jun 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <4pq3qm\$17d@usenet.ucs.indiana.edu>,
amaravad@silver.ucs.indiana.edu (ratnakar amaravadi) wrote:
> In article <31B4DEBE.2781@raptor.lpl.arizona.edu>,
> Tim Patterson <tim@raptor.lpl.arizona.edu> wrote:
>> Sorry to be generating my own thread here...
>>
>> Well, I managed to track down my problem, and it appears to be an
>> inconsistency in the way pickfile works and I can't see this mentioned
>> in the FAQ...
>>
>> If I call up pickfile as
>>
>> file = PICKFILE(GET_PATH = path)
>>
>> it creates a pickfile widget and I can select a file.
>> The variable path is always returned correctly, but the
>> variable file can vary dependent upon how I use the
>> pickfile widget.
>>
>> If I click on an already existing file, the path+file names
>> are copied into the selection widget and returned on pressing
>> OK. So I end up with
>>
>> file = /usr/tim/file.dat
>> and path = /usr/tim/
>>
>> However, if I type a filename into the Selection widget
>> to create a new file and press OK, I get:
>>
>> file = newfile.dat
>> and path = /usr/tim/
>>
>> Surely this inconsistency in pickfile is a bug of sorts.
>> After all, there is no need to copy the path into the selection
>> widget when it is available at the top of the pickfile widget
>> already. The documentation says pickfile returns a file name
>> and doesn't say it returns a complete path.
>>
>> I guess I'm going to have to add some OS-dependent code into
>> my routines each time I call pickfile just to make sure
>> that there is no path already attached to the filename unless
>> somebody can tell me a clever hack around this...
>>
>> Tim

>

> How about checking for '/' in the filename string. If you get
> a -1 then you have only a filename w/o path. If not -1 then
> pickfile has returned path+filename.

I had a little routine to do exactly the above (check for '/' or
a '\' in the filename string). However, notice that under Motif
it is possible to get a return filename something like: 'temp/'.
Therefore, to find out if the returned file contains the path
you must search for a separator and make sure that the position
of the separator is not equal to strlen()-1.

I agree, this inconsistency, although not unsurmountable,
is a little messy. It would be better if the convention was that
the returned filename never included the path.

--

Julien.
