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Subject: Re: WIDGET\_CONTROL: Invalid widget identifier:  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 06 Dec 2011 00:31:31 GMT  
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DB writes:

> I am pretty new to idl but have experience in other languages. I am  
> working on a very large program originally created in idl 7, but I am  
> working in idl 8.0.1. The following has been simplified from the  
> program and produces an unusual error  
>  
> % Stepped to: ENVI\_REAL\_MAIN\_BASE % WIDGET\_CONTROL: Invalid widget  
> identifier: 17.  
>  
> This error persists when the problematic portion of code is isolated  
> as below. I have included the entire error message. Any suggestions to  
> my ignorance or ways to overcome/fix this problem.  
>  
> pro testt  
> compile\_opt idl2  
> envi, /restore\_base\_save\_files  
> envi\_batch\_init  
>  
> End

I'm not much of an ENVI person, but I *\*think\** you have  
execute those two ENVI commands from the IDL main-level.  
That is, not from inside a program module. (I seem to recall  
having the same problem once.)

The invalid widget identifier comes about when you try  
to use a widget identifier in a command and that widget  
no longer exists. This could happen, for example, if you  
saved a program that used widgets, then killed all the widgets.  
When you restore the program, you will have to re-create all  
the widgets and update the widget identifiers. Otherwise, this  
is exactly what can happen.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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