
Subject: Re: Displaying a list of filenames

Posted by [Percy Pugwash](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2012 15:45:22 GMT

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On Jan 3, 3:11 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Percy Pugwash writes:

>> I would like to display a list of filenames in an widget application.

>> I have so far been unable to find a satisfactory way of doing this,

>> since I would like the user to be able to:

>

>> 1) Select one or several of the filenames in the list

>> 2) View the whole filepath, right-aligned so that the name at the end

>> is clear

>

>> I can't seem to right-align a list widget, and a text widget won't let

>> me select an item in the list in a straightforward way. I think I can

>> make it work with a table widget, but that seems to have irritating

>> and unnecessary scroll bars.

>

>> Does anyone have a solution?

>

> My solution, after years of frustration trying to do just

> this, was to retreat to a smarter version of Dialog_Pickfile,

> which can remember the directory (and file, if I want) that

> I previously selected. It's made my life easier and I no

> longer wake up in terror at night thinking about table widgets. :-)

>

> <http://www.idlcoyote.com/idldoc/cg/cgpickfile.html>

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> P.S. Set the MULTIPLE keyword if you want to select

> multiple files.

>

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

David,

Thanks very much. While I can see that cgPickfile offers some useful options not present in dialog_pickfile, I'm not sure if it's quite suitable for my purpose. The idea here is the the files have already been selected, and the selected files are displayed in a list of some

kind, such that the user can highlight any given one of those files in order to tweak the processing steps for that file (with options given in the widget application). As such, I think it's quite important that the list would be embedded directly into the top-level base of the application. The files themselves might not all be in the same directory.

Another slightly less satisfactory route I was considering exploring would be to use `widget_list`, but truncate the displayed paths so that the rightmost portion of the path is visible. However, this requires a way to calculate how much of the string will exactly fit in the available space. I suppose I could set the list to be a set width in characters, and then at least be sure that if I truncate each string to be equal to that width, they would fit in the box. I think it'd be quite unattractive though.

P
