
Subject: Re: MESSAGE (used in VM) invokes DIALOG_MESSAGE: Can this be suppressed?

Posted by chris_torrence@NOSPAM on Mon, 21 Apr 2014 22:25:59 GMT

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On Monday, April 21, 2014 1:05:57 PM UTC-6, Edward Hyer wrote:

> On Thursday, April 17, 2014 3:57:37 PM UTC-7, Edward Hyer wrote:

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>> On Thursday, April 17, 2014 1:23:24 PM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:

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>>> Which platform is this on? And how are you running it non-interactively?

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>> Linux. The DIALOG_MESSAGE behavior happens with either -rt or -vm.

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> If you're wondering why this matters: when the dialog with the message pops up, indicating a terminal error, the job does not end. The IDL job continues, including holding onto the license when run with -rt, until the "OK" button in the error dialog is manually clicked.

Okay, I've tracked this down to "idlrtmain.sav", which controls "rt" and "vm" mode. Inside it has the following code block:

```
CATCH, Err
if(Err ne 0)then begin
  catch, /cancel
  error_msg = !error_state.msg

  ; on unix we may not have a display (an error condition
  ; in vm mode, not runtime mode) try to prevent an additional
  ; error about dialog_message when reporting the initial error.
  ; just check to see if the display is unset (an incomplete test)
  ; rather than using a DEVICE call (which would need another
  ; catch block).
  if (!VERSION.OS_FAMILY eq 'unix' && $
      strlen(getenv('DISPLAY')) eq 0) then begin
    MESSAGE, error_msg
  endif else begin
    result = DIALOG_MESSAGE(error_msg)
  endelse
```

```
    return  
endif
```

So, as you discovered, if your DISPLAY is not set then you are fine - the output will get directed to the terminal.

As a workaround, you can simply disable the DISPLAY environment variable from within IDL, and then re-enable it. Something like:

```
mydisp = GETENV('DISPLAY')  
SETENV, 'DISPLAY='  
MESSAGE, 'bad error'  
SETENV, 'DISPLAY=' + mydisp
```

You could even put this into a catch block so all of your errors would funnel through it.

In the meantime, I'll take a look at modifying this code (or ripping it out) for IDL 8.3.1.

Cheers,
Chris
ExelisVIS
