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Subject: determining the display size (IDL)  
Posted by [Rick Baer](#) on Wed, 17 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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I would like to determine desktop display resolution from IDL (under Windows). I thought that I could use !D.X\_SIZE, but I get the size of the most recently accessed window. Any suggestions?

-Rick Baer-  
Senior Member of Technical Staff  
Hardcopy Technology Laboratory  
Hewlett-Packard Laboratories

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Subject: Re: determining the display size (IDL)  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 18 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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Robert S. Mallozzi (mallors@msfc.nasa.gov) writes:

```
> You might want use the GET_SCREEN_SIZE () function
> instead, as it won't crash if the device is
> not set "properly":
>
> IDL> PRINT, !D.NAME
> X
> IDL> DEVICE, GET_SCREEN_SIZE = s & PRINT, s
> 1024 768
> IDL> s = GET_SCREEN_SIZE () & PRINT, s
> % Compiled module: GET_SCREEN_SIZE.
> 1024.00 768.000
> IDL> SET_PLOT, 'PS'
> IDL> DEVICE, GET_SCREEN_SIZE = s & PRINT, s
> % Keyword GET_SCREEN_SIZE not allowed in call to: DEVICE
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
> IDL> PRINT, !D.NAME
> PS
> IDL> s = GET_SCREEN_SIZE () & PRINT, s
> 1024.00 768.000
```

Whoa! Did you see the code for GET\_SCREEN\_SIZE!?

They realize an \*unmapped\* object draw widget on the device. Then get the screen dimensions from the window object. Nice trick, because devices that don't support windows don't complain until a window actually shows up on the display,

which this one never does.

Who said objects weren't powerful! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: determining the display size (IDL)  
Posted by [mallors](#) on Thu, 18 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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In article <MPG.129ce5a38d765b1e989975@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

> Rick Baer (baer@hpl.hp.com) writes:

>

>> I would like to determine desktop display resolution from IDL  
>> (under Windows). I thought that I could use !D.X\_SIZE, but I  
>> get the size of the most recently accessed window. Any  
>> suggestions?

>

> I use this:

>

> IDL> Device, Get\_Screen\_Size=thisScreenSize

> IDL> Print, thisScreenSize

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

You might want use the GET\_SCREEN\_SIZE () function instead, as it won't crash if the device is not set "properly":

```
IDL> PRINT, !D.NAME
```

```
X
```

```
IDL> DEVICE, GET_SCREEN_SIZE = s & PRINT, s  
1024 768
```

```
IDL> s = GET_SCREEN_SIZE () & PRINT, s
```

```
% Compiled module: GET_SCREEN_SIZE.
```

```
1024.00 768.000
IDL> SET_PLOT, 'PS'
IDL> DEVICE, GET_SCREEN_SIZE = s & PRINT, s
% Keyword GET_SCREEN_SIZE not allowed in call to: DEVICE
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
IDL> PRINT, !D.NAME
PS
IDL> s = GET_SCREEN_SIZE () & PRINT, s
1024.00 768.000
IDL>
```

Regards,  
-bob

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```
~~~~~
Robert S. Mallozzi                256-544-0887
                                Mail Code SD 50
http://gammaray.msfc.nasa.gov/    Marshall Space Flight Center
http://cspar.uah.edu/~mallozzir/  Huntsville, AL 35812
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