
Subject: Re: interpreter access

Posted by [Steven Chetelat \(CS\)](#) on Tue, 04 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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On Tue, 4 Apr 2000, David Fanning wrote:

> Thomas Fechner (tfes@my-deja.com) writes:
>
>> my next task is to realize a GUI with IDL and I
>> want to call some external commands (C-programms,
>> shell scripts, IDL-functions etc.) from widgets
>> directly and (that's my problem) also copy these
>> commands to the IDL command window (interpreter
>> window). Is there any possibiltiy to access the
>> interpreter window from any IDL widgets and what
>> is to do therefore?
>
> The easiest way to gain access to the IDL command
> interpreter from any program is to use the "virtual
> functions": Call_Function, Call_Procedure, and Call_Method.
> And for what those don't do, there is good ol'
> Execute to mop up the rest. :-)

Also (assuming I understand the question), you can get whatever you execute to print out to the command window simply using idl's print statement, since all these functions take string arguments. There'll be a little wrangling to get all the arguments to print out, but nothing too rough.

K-Bye,
STEVE! (chetelat@csee.usf.edu)(steve@moffitt.usf.edu)

Subject: Re: interpreter access

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 04 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Thomas Fechner (tfes@my-deja.com) writes:

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The easiest way to gain access to the IDL command interpreter from any program is to use the "virtual functions": Call_Function, Call_Procedure, and Call_Method. And for what those don't do, there is good ol' Execute to mop up the rest. :-)

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

Subject: Re: interpreter access
Posted by [Thomas Fechner](#) on Wed, 05 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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I want to clarify my wishes. I want to send a command to the IDL interpreter from some program (mostly widgets) and this command should be remembered with the JOURNAL command as all other commands which I type at the IDL prompt.

Interpreter calls with call_procedure, call_function are not listed. Ok, every print output is in the log file but commented out and it will be a solution with some additional work. Any other ideas ?

Thomas

Thomas Fechner tfechner@aip.de
Astrophysikalisches Institut Potsdam
An der Sternwarte 16

Subject: Re: interpreter access
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Thu, 06 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Thomas Fechner wrote:

>

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> interpreter from some program (mostly widgets) and this command should
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> Interpreter calls with call_procedure, call_function are not listed. Ok,

> every print output is in the log file but commented out and it will be a
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 > Thomas
 > -----
 > Thomas Fechner tfechner@aip.de
 > Astrophysikalisches Institut Potsdam
 > An der Sternwarte 16

Ok: *that's* much easier than actually putting the text on the command line!

The JOURNAL command accepts an argument which is interpreted as the journal file name if no journal file is opened and interpreted as text to put into the journal file if it is open. With the !JOURNAL system variable you can do the test yourself.

Here is a piece of code that should demonstrate what you need to do:

```
; cmdstr is the string you receive from your external call

if not !journal then begin
    ; assume that you want to stop if you can't find the journal file
    ; note it is not possible to append to an existing file unless you
    ; write your own journaling routines
    Message,'Journal file not open!','/Continue
    return
endif
call_procedure,cmdstr
journal,cmdstr
```

Viele Gruesse,
 Martin

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--
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```
