
Subject: Re: How to display image on X root window?
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sun, 19 Nov 2000 07:34:07 GMT
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"David G. Grier" <grier@fafnir.uchicago.edu> writes:

> Hi Folks,
>
> Is there a straightfoward way to get IDL to display an image on the
> root window of an X display?
> I have something in mind along the lines of xloadimage -onroot
>
> Alternatively, is there a way to open an IDL window with no borders
> or title bar?

You can probably accomplish this by creating a window the exact size
of the display. Here is some code to do that:

```
IDL> device, get_screen_size=screenxy  
IDL> window, 0, xsize=screenxy(0), ysize=screenxy(1)
```

On my Linux at least, the border is there, but appears off-screen, so
the full screen real-estate is taken by the IDL graphics window. Also
a user can move the window and resize it.

As for a way to open a window on another display, that may be
trickier. If you can, you should set the DISPLAY variable before
calling IDL. You might also try doing

```
setenv, 'DISPLAY=:0.1'
```

However when I tried this, a license error came up [IDL thinks you
are trying to bypass the one-machine, one-license restriction.
Commercial software, harumph!]

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: How to display image on X root window?
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Mon, 20 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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"David G. Grier" wrote:

```
>
> Hi Folks,
>
> Is there a straightfoward way to get IDL to display an image on the
> root window of an X display?
> I have something in mind along the lines of xloadimage -onroot
>
> Alternatively, is there a way to open an IDL window with no borders
> or title bar?
>
> Finally, is there a way to open an IDL window on an alternate
> display? Again, I have something
> in mind along the lines of xloadimage -onroot -display :0.1 .
>
> Thanks in advance,
>
> David
>
> P.S. My problem getting IDL 5.3/5.4 to work under Mandrake Linux 7.2
> isn't solved yet.
> RSI suggested switching to RedHat 7.0, but I'm looking for a better
> solution.
>
> --
> =====
=====
> David G. Grier      Dept of Physics, James Franck Institute, and
> (773) 702-9176 (voice)      Institute for Biophysical Dynamics
> (773) 702-5863 (FAX)      The University of Chicago
> d-grier@uchicago.edu      5640 S. Ellis Ave
> http://griergroup.uchicago.edu/~grier/      Chicago, IL 60637
> =====
=====
```

If you use KDE, putting an image on the root window won't do you much good, for if you change your desktop and back again, it will be overwritten with the old background. However, you can exploit this feature, define a background image in KDE and overwrite this image file from IDL. I do this to load "current" (i.e. today's) satellite images on my background. Only that I barely ever see them because of all these open windows. Time for a 64" monitor ;-)

Cheers,
Martin

--

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```
