
Subject: Re: wait loop
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 11:41:32 GMT
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Dominik Paul wrote:

>
> hi there,
>
> we would like to check a directory, if there is a file every 10 oder 20
> minutes in an IDL programm For this we would like to use a waitung funktion,
> in a loop, which doesnt cost to much processor time.
>
> Does somebody know a waiting function for this problem, because I coulnd
> find anything suitable in the IDL help files.
>
> Thanks
>
> Dom

Dear Dom,

are you looking for something like:

```
FUNCTION wait_until_daytime,day_time
```

```
    ask_time = string2js(day_time)  
    time_now = string2js(/now)
```

```
    IF ask_time lt time_now THEN return,0
```

```
    WHILE time_now LT ask_time DO time_now = string2js(/now)
```

```
    RETURN,1  
END
```

```
result=wait_until_daytime('2001-09-20 13:35:00 000')
```

```
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/string2js.tar.gz
```

regards
Reimar

--
Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

=====

a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

=====

read something about linux / windows
<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

Subject: Re: wait loop
Posted by [Dominik\[1\]](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 11:41:44 GMT
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I think, this kind of loop needs to much processor power. We would like to have somethink you nearly dont notice, that there is a IDL task running in the back.

Dom
"Reimar Bauer" <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> schrieb im Newsbeitrag
news:3BA9D5EC.504C0EB3@fz-juelich.de...
> Dominik Paul wrote:
>>
>> hi there,
>>
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>> minutes in an IDL programm For this we would like to use a waitung
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>> in a loop, which doesnt cost to much processor time.
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>> find anything suitable in the IDL help files.
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>> Thanks
>>
>> Dom
>
>
> Dear Dom,
>
> are you looking for something like:
>

```

>
> FUNCTION wait_until_daytime,day_time
>
>   ask_time = string2js(day_time)
>   time_now = string2js(/now)
>
>   IF ask_time lt time_now THEN return,0
>
>   WHILE time_now LT ask_time DO time_now = string2js(/now)
>
>   RETURN,1
> END
>
>
> result=wait_until_daytime('2001-09-20 13:35:00 000')
>
>
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/string2js.tar.gz
>
>
> regards
> Reimar
>
> --
> Reimar Bauer
>
> Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
> Forschungszentrum Juelich
> email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/
> =====
> a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
>
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html
> =====
>
> read something about linux / windows
> http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html

```

Subject: Re: wait loop
 Posted by [pit](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 12:20:15 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Reimar Bauer <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> writes:
 > Dominik Paul wrote:

>> we would like to check a directory, if there is a file every 10
>> oder 20 minutes in an IDL programm For this we would like to use a
>> waitung funktion, in a loop, which doesnt cost to much processor
>> time.

> WHILE time_now LT ask_time DO time_now = string2js(/now)

Hmm, I think he was looking for something that doesn't consume too
much processor time....

What's about a simple wait, seconds

Pit

--

~~~~~  
~~~~~

Dr. Peter "Pit" Suetterlin <http://www.astro.uu.nl/~suetter>
Sterrenkundig Instituut Utrecht
Tel.: +31 (0)30 253 5225 P.Suetterlin@astro.uu.nl

Subject: Re: wait loop
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 12:25:25 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Dominik Paul wrote:

> hi there,
>
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> minutes in an IDL programm For this we would like to use a waitung funktion,
> in a loop, which doesnt cost to much processor time.
>
> Does somebody know a waiting function for this problem, because I couldnd
> find anything suitable in the IDL help files.
>
> Thanks
>
> Dom
>
>
>

Well, there's a WAIT procedure. Won't that do?

Does it have to be a function? ;-)

--

Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK

E-mail : nmw@ion.le.ac.uk

Phone : +44 (0)116 2523568, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

Subject: Re: wait loop

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 12:28:56 GMT

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Reimar Bauer wrote:

> Dominik Paul wrote:

>

>> hi there,

>>

>> we would like to check a directory, if there is a file every 10 oder 20

>> minutes in an IDL programm For this we would like to use a waitung funktion,

>> in a loop, which doesnt cost to much processor time.

>>

>> Does somebody know a waiting function for this problem, because I couldnd

>> find anything suitable in the IDL help files.

>>

>> Thanks

>>

>> Dom

>>

>

>

> Dear Dom,

>

> are you looking for something like:

>

>

> FUNCTION wait_until_daytime,day_time

>

> ask_time = string2js(day_time)

> time_now = string2js(/now)

>

> IF ask_time LT time_now THEN return,0

>

> WHILE time_now LT ask_time DO time_now = string2js(/now)

>

> RETURN,1

> END

>

```
>  
> result=wait_until_daytime('2001-09-20 13:35:00 000')  
>  
> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/string2js.tar.gz  
>  
>  
> regards  
> Reimar  
>  
>
```

I can't actually test this procedure as I don't have string2js, but it looks to me as though it would use around 100% of the CPU while it's waiting.

That's not very friendly if it's a multiuser system.

--

Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK
E-mail : nmw@ion.le.ac.uk
Phone : +44 (0)116 2523568, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

Subject: Re: wait loop
Posted by [ronn](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 12:52:40 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

in article 9ocd41\$mis\$1@n.ruf.uni-freiburg.de, Dominik Paul at
dpaul@ukl.uni-freiburg.de wrote on 9/20/01 5:28 AM:

```
> we would like to check a directory, if there is a file every 10 oder 20  
> minutes in an IDL programm For this we would like to use a waitung funktion,  
> in a loop, which doesnt cost to much processor time.
```

```
>  
Dom,
```

What you want to use is a timer event for widgets. This doesn't use any cpu time until the event fires off. If you don't have any widgets as part of your program you can still create a simple base and keep map=0 so that it never becomes visible.

-Ronn

--

Ronn Kling

KRS, inc.

email: ronn@rlkling.com

"Application Development with IDL" 1½ programming book updated for IDL5.4!

"Calling C from IDL, Using DLM's to extend your IDL code" NEW BOOK!

<http://www.rlkling.com/>

Subject: Re: wait loop

Posted by [Dominik\[1\]](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 13:03:37 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi,

thanks, that was what I was looking for, perhaps I didnt express my self very good.

"ronn kling" <ronn@rlkling.com> schrieb im Newsbeitrag

news:B7CF5DD5.330B%ronn@rlkling.com...

> in article 9ocd41\$mis\$1@n.ruf.uni-freiburg.de, Dominik Paul at

> dpaul@ukl.uni-freiburg.de wrote on 9/20/01 5:28 AM:

>

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>>

> Dom,

>

> What you want to use is a timer event for widgets. This doesn't use any cpu

> time until the event fires off. If you don't have any widgets as part of

> your program you can still create a simple base and keep map=0 so that it

> never becomes visible.

>

> -Ronn

>

>

> --

> Ronn Kling

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> email: ronn@rlkling.com

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>

>

Subject: Re: wait loop
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 13:17:50 GMT
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Dominik Paul wrote:

>
> I think, this kind of loop needs to much processor power. We would like to
> have somethink you nearly dont notice, that there is a IDL task running in
> the back.

Yes, I know, I missed the wait command.

```
WHILE time_now LT ask_time DO begin
  time_now = string2js(/now)
  wait,0.5 ; saves CPU time
endwhile
```

Ronn's answer is the best solution if you like doing this by idl.

Reimar

```
>
> Dom
> "Reimar Bauer" <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> schrieb im Newsbeitrag
> news:3BA9D5EC.504C0EB3@fz-juelich.de...
>> Dominik Paul wrote:
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>>
>> Dear Dom,
>>
>> are you looking for something like:
```



```

>>
>>
>> FUNCTION wait_until_daytime,day_time
>>
>>   ask_time = string2js(day_time)
>>   time_now = string2js(/now)
>>
>>   IF ask_time lt time_now THEN return,0
>>
>>   WHILE time_now LT ask_time DO time_now = string2js(/now)
>>
>>   RETURN,1
>> END
>>
>>
>> result=wait_until_daytime('2001-09-20 13:35:00 000')
>>
>>
>  http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/downl
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>> http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.h tml
>>
>> http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html
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>> read something about linux / windows
>> http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html
>>
--
Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

```

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

=====

a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

=====

read something about linux / windows

<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

Subject: Re: wait loop

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 13:51:07 GMT

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Ronn Kling (ronn@rlkling.com) writes:

> What you want to use is a timer event for widgets. This doesn't use any cpu
> time until the event fires off. If you don't have any widgets as part of
> your program you can still create a simple base and keep map=0 so that it
> never becomes visible.

Because I wasn't sure if an unmapped widget could actually receive a timer event, I just coded a file-seeking program up. Here it is. Note no error checking!

```
*****  
PRO TestForFile_Event, event  
Widget_Control, event.top, Get_UValue=filename  
dummy = Findfile(filename, Count=count)  
IF count EQ 0 THEN BEGIN  
    Widget_Control, event.top, Timer=5  
    Print, 'Still looking...'  
ENDIF ELSE Print, 'Found File: ', filename  
END
```

```
PRO TestForFile, filename  
tlb = Widget_Base(Map=0)  
Widget_Control, tlb, /Realize, Set_UValue=filename  
Widget_Control, tlb, Timer=5  
XManager, 'testforfile', tlb, /No_Block  
END
```

```
*****
```

I ran it like this:

```
IDL> TestForFile, 'butter.pro'
```

Here is my output. Note, I had to save a file named "butter.pro" to get the think stopped. :-)

```
Still looking...
Still looking...
Still looking...
Still looking...
Found File: butter.pro
```

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: wait loop
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 20 Sep 2001 13:53:34 GMT
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David Fanning (david@dfanning.com) writes:

```
> Here it is. Note no error
> checking!
```

Uh, well, or any cleanup. Here is a slightly better version. Next time, I'm going to wait a year until I post. :-)

Cheers,

David

```
PRO TestForFile_Event, event
Widget_Control, event.top, Get_UValue=filename
dummy = Findfile(filename, Count=count)
IF count EQ 0 THEN BEGIN
    Widget_Control, event.top, Timer=5
    Print, 'Still looking...
```

```
ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
  Widget_Control, event.top, /Destroy
  Print, 'Found File: ', filename
ENDELSE
END
```

```
PRO TestForFile, filename
tlb = Widget_Base(Map=0)
Widget_Control, tlb, /Realize, Set_UValue=filename
Widget_Control, tlb, Timer=5
XManager, 'testforfile', tlb, /No_Block
END
```

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
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