
Subject: X device Resolution

Posted by [soc](#) on Fri, 21 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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I am running IDL 3.6 on an ALPHA, under X windows. When using widgets IDL arranges the widgets according to the pixel resolution available - for example: sometimes a widget with a graphics window like xfont, will not show the graphics window unless the window is maximised, and then not all the window is seen, but leaving a huge gaping hole in the rest of the window. This depends on the pixel resolution - if you have enough pixels, then there is no problem (I have seen this on many displays).

I see the same problem when I write widgets, and so my questions are:

1. does anyone have a way of getting the device resolution automatically so I can scale my widget applications accordingly?
2. does anyone else consider this a bug - or at least as a colleague here put it: "the default action is pretty weird!" - in IDL ?

Thanks in advance,

Rob O'Connell

Subject: Re: X device Resolution

Posted by [thompson](#) on Mon, 24 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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soc@festival.ed.ac.uk (Stephen O'Connell) writes:

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> for example: sometimes a widget with a graphics window like xfont, will
> not show the graphics window unless the window is maximised, and then
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> of the window. This depends on the pixel resolution - if you have
> enough pixels, then there is no problem (I have seen this on many
> displays).

> I see the same problem when I write widgets, and so my questions are:
> 1. does anyone have a way of getting the device resolution automatically
> so I can scale my widget applications accordingly?

The GET_SCREEN_SIZE keyword to DEVICE should do what you want to do. For example, in some of our software we put scroll bars around the entire widget to make it fit within the screen, if necessary. Here's some sample lines from one of our routines.

```
device, get_screen_size = sz
if (sz(0) ge 1280) and (sz(1) ge 1024) then sz(*) = 0
sz = sz < [1280,1024]
base = widget_base(title='CDS Technical Planning - raster definition',$
    /column,/frame,x_scroll=sz(0),y_scroll=sz(1))
```

Note that if the display is large enough then it doesn't put on scroll bars.

> 2. does anyone else consider this a bug - or at least as a colleague
> here put it: "the default action is pretty weird!" - in IDL ?

Yes, I think it's pretty weird too. I don't know why it works that way, but it's pretty frustrating.

Bill Thompson
