
Subject: Associating color-table with widget application
Posted by [David Foster](#) on Wed, 23 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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The problem is simple: in a widget application, I want the widget to load its own color-table whenever the cursor is "in" the application, and load a pre-existing color-table when the cursor is "out" of the application. Sounds easy right? Please tell me it is...what keyword did I miss this time?

I tried using tracking events, but you get color-flashing whenever you leave one widget and enter another, even if you enable tracking events for ALL widgets. If you enable tracking events for only the TLB, you lose your colors whenever you move into, say, a slider widget which adjust a plot which you really need to see in the correct colors...

Then I saw the KBRD_FOCUS_EVENTS keyword to the WIDGET_BASE() function, and I thought I was quite clever. But of course you lose your colors again when, say, you press a slider widget that adjusts a plot which you really need to see in the correct colors...

This seems so basic. It's easy to do for, say, a draw widget. But how do you do it for an entire widget heirarchy? RTFM's welcome!

Dave

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Subject: Re: Associating color-table with widget application
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 24 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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David Foster <foster@bial1.ucsd.edu> writes:

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> correct colors...

Hi David. I think you are right to be thinking about color "protection", especially as we move into IDL 5 and an accessible command line while widget programs are running. I've been giving this idea a lot of thought, too. (See the new example programs that I put I my web page overnight.)

But I guess I don't fully understand the problem you are having. I don't, for example, seem to have problems when I move into a slider. Perhaps because I have been taking a different approach. My idea is that each widget program ought to "know" its own colors, but be unconcerned with everyone else's colors. This way, when you enter a widget (via tracking on the TLB or a draw widget [although tracking on TLBs seems to be broken in the IDL 5 beta]) the widget program can restore its colors. This is what I mean by color protection.

You necessarily have color flashing as you move from one widget to another, since the various widgets are using the same color indices, but I don't find it annoying in the slightest. In fact, it is exactly what I want!

Anyway, perhaps an example of what you are struggling with will help us find a solution.

Cheers!

David

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

Subject: Re: Associating color-table with widget application

Posted by [tim](#) on Thu, 24 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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I think I understand what you're describing, but forgive me if I don't!

You have one application window that contains a number of other widgets (buttons, etc.) It's when you move the mouse into and out of this window (the application) that you want to change colour table, but at present it's changing as you move around WITHIN this application. Is that correct?

have you tried creating a large base widget for the whole application in which all the otehr widgets sit and turn on event_tracking for this base widget, and turn it off for all the others. (I use event_tracking in a similar way for a context sensitive help, and I group a set of widgets in this way and connect the help to their base widget instead of each individual widget so that I can desribe them all in one go).

I don't know. This sounds like something you probably tried. But then it might just be one of those obvious DUH! things :)

Tim

David Foster (foster@bial1.ucsd.edu) wrote:

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: ~~~~~
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Subject: Re: Associating color-table with widget application
Posted by [Phil Williams](#) on Mon, 28 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

>

> David Foster <foster@bial1.ucsd.edu> writes:

>

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> annoying in the slightest. In fact, it is exactly what
> I want!
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> with will help us find a solution.
>
> Cheers!

This is exactly what I do in my XDISPLAY program. I have one app that I can have as many as 10 XDISPLAYs opened and each has it's own color table. As the mouse moves into one XDISPLAY the LUT is updated w/ that colors and all the others follow.

If you need to have more than one LUT at a time then you need to split the color table. XDISPLAY can also do this (on a limited basis) by using "greyscale/color" mode.

see <http://www.irc.chmcc.org/idl/xdisplay.html> for more info.

Phil

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```
/***** */
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Research Instructor
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Imaging Research Center              another man spills..."
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/***** */
```
