
Subject: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [Kevin Marvel](#) on Wed, 05 Nov 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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I am having a problem with the dialog_pickfile widget. I am running IDL

on a Sun Ultra 1 running Solaris OS (latest version). The problem is that

dialog_pickfile displays the fully expanded directory path for all directories

and all files in the directory and file panes (respectively). This is redundant

information as the filter line above has the full path. Does anyone know how

to stop dialog_pickfile from displaying the fully qualified paths?

Kev.

--

+-----+

| Kevin B. Marvel, Ph.D. Phone: (619) 938-2075, ext. 204 |
| Owens Valley Radio Observatory Fax: (619) 938-2297 |
| 100 Leighton Lane e-mail: kbm@ovro.caltech.edu |
| Big Pine, CA 93513 WWW: http://www.ovro.caltech.edu/~kbm/index.html |

+-----+

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [ressler](#) on Thu, 05 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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On Wed, 4 Feb 1998 16:33:56 GMT, bowler@eisner.decus.org wrote:

> Is there a way to change the behaviour of dialog_pickfile so that the "file"
> side of the dialog box only shows the name part of the filename, rather than
> the whole path? The way it exists now, if you're more than about 1 level
> deep in the directory structure, you can't see what filename you're selecting.

Though you don't say it, I'm guessing you are using Solaris 2.5.1. There is a bug in one of the X libraries - libXm, I believe, which causes this behavior - it's not a problem native to IDL. Applying Sun's patch #103461-15 will fix it. Or you can do like I ultimately did and dump OpenWindows entirely and replace it with a stock X11R6.3 :-)

Mike Ressler

ressler@cougar.jpl.nasa.gov

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 00:16:44 GMT

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Nagur writes:

> I have a problem with dialog_pickfile. It doesn't allow me to select
> multiple_files across different subdirectories. Is there a way that
> will allow me to select multiple_files but from different directories?

Do you have *any* file selection tool on your operating system that allows you to do this? I don't believe I've ever seen one.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [NACH](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 00:34:47 GMT

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Thanks David for the reply.....But do you know why we do not have such a tool(dialog_pickfile with the capability to select multiple files across different directories)?I am curious to know if there is any technical reason.....

best wishes,
Nagur

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 00:45:44 GMT

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Nagur writes:

> Thanks David for the reply.....But do you know why we do not have
> such a tool(dialog_pickfile with the capability to select multiple
> files across different directories)?I am curious to know if there
> is any technical reason.....

My guess is because such a thing doesn't exist in the underlying operating system routines to support it. But I don't know. Have you ever seen this kind of functionality?

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [Robbie](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 00:46:27 GMT

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The only reasonable way I could think to do this would be to have a temporary widget_tree which had a heirarchy of all currently selected directories or files. You would use dialog_pickfile to add files to that heirarchy.

Alternatively you could use dialog_pickfile to select a root for a temporary widget_tree. The tree would be built using file_search and then the user could flag the tree nodes for selection.

It all depends upon the context of the application. I agree that you're expecting a bit much from dialog_pickfile.

Robbie

<http://www.barnett.id.au/idl>

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [Jo Klein](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 15:29:45 GMT

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I've seen something like that running in Matlab, and it's a bit of a nightmare. The problem is keeping track of what you've actually selected in a directory that you are currently not in. It's not a machine limitation, I suppose it's just good reasoning given the average person's, say, Friday afternoon attention span ...

Cheers,

Jo

Nagur wrote:

- > Thanks David for the reply.....But do you know why we do not have
- > such a tool(dialog_pickfile with the capability to select multiple
- > files across different directories)?I am curious to know if there
- > is any technical reason.....
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- > best wishes,
- > Nagur
- >

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [Eric Hudson](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 16:00:55 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

- > Nagur writes:
- >
- >> I have a problem with dialog_pickfile. It doesnt allow me to select
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- >> will allow me to select multiple_files but from different directories?
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- > Do you have *any* file selection tool on your operating
- > system that allows you to do this? I don't believe I've
- > ever seen one.
- >

I use several programs that have this type of functionality, although not in a standard file dialog. Instead, the file dialog is extended to include a "selected files" list (for example, in a region below the standard dialog). The "OK" of the file dialog is now "Select" and selected files are added to the list. Some basic functionality of ordering and removing items from the list rounds out what I think would be a generically useful tool.

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 16:17:00 GMT

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Eric Hudson writes:

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- > not in a standard file dialog. Instead, the file dialog is extended to
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- > selected files are added to the list. Some basic functionality of
- > ordering and removing items from the list rounds out what I think would
- > be a generically useful tool.

Yes, this is the only way I can see to implement this kind of functionality. Unfortunately, it means developing your own machine-independent file selection tool. (Or, using CW_FILESEL, which is easily ruled out on aesthetics alone!) I've long wished for a way to include the standard file selection widgets inside my own widget base, which would make such a thing easy to write. But I don't think we are going to see anything like that.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Have you ever wondered why Dialog_Pickfile always appears in the upper-left corner of the display when you first use it, and then in the center of the display from then on? That's the kind of thing that drives me crazy. -(

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [greg michael](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2006 19:07:29 GMT

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If you're on Windows, try the Accessories-System Tools-Backup program - it does this by marking nodes in the directory tree.

Greg

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:19:05 GMT

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On Apr 22, 9:12 am, clivecoo...@gmail.com wrote:

- > Hi,
- >

```

> I am using Dialog_pickfile to write a jpeg, using file='a string i
> insert here'. My problem is that if i want to change the directory in
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> filename = Dialog_Pickfile(/Write, File=uname
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> IF filename NE " THEN Write_JPEG, filename, snapshot, True=1
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> many thanks,
>
> Clive

```

Seems to me that you don't want to give the user a choice to make the filename. So, why not just have them choose a directory?

```

dirname = Dialog_Pickfile(/Directory)
if strlen(dirname) gt 0 then File=dirname+path_sep()+uname
+'-'+info.file_name+'.jpeg'

```

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
 Posted by [clivecook59](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:20:52 GMT
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On Apr 22, 10:19 am, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

```

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Thats a good suggestion, however i do not want to remove the possibility of the user to edit the filename.

thanks

Clive

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:23:13 GMT
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How about using filter=uname+'-'+info.file_name+'.jpeg' instead of
file?

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
Posted by [clivecook59](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:29:05 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Apr 22, 10:23 am, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

> On Apr 22, 9:20 am, clivecoo...@gmail.com wrote:

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I don't think that works as when you set filter it only displays files
with that name. In this case the file is yet to be created.

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:31:28 GMT
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clivecook59@gmail.com writes:

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> the file name back in?

I just note, for the record, that the Windows version
of DIALOG_PICKFILE works correctly. No re-typing required
there. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
Posted by [clivecook59](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:33:35 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Apr 22, 10:31 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> clivecoo...@gmail.com writes:
>> I am using Dialog_pickfile to write a jpeg, using file='a string i
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> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
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> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Ah, i am using IDL 7. on a Mac, i guess that is the problem

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:36:39 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Apr 22, 9:29 am, clivecoo...@gmail.com wrote:
> On Apr 22, 10:23 am, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:
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```

But isn't that okay? One should still see all the directories, no?

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 14:38:20 GMT

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

On Apr 22, 9:36 am, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

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> But isn't that okay? One should still see all the directories, no?

```

Nevermind, I just got on to my computer where I could actually try it.

Subject: Re: Dialog_pickfile problem
 Posted by [marika](#) on Wed, 23 Apr 2008 01:01:09 GMT
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<clivecook59@gmail.com> wrote in message
 news:27cccf2-3ec1-4831-aa9e-12763e8fe331@l42g2000hsc.google groups.com...
 >
 >

> Ah, i am using IDL 7. on a Mac, i guess that is the problem

o well, go back to your previous isp and opera

mk5000

"Can't you find a clue/When your eyes are painted Sinatra blue?"--Bon Iver
