
Subject: Multiple Selection List Widget

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 23 Jan 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi Folks,

Deb Summa was looking for a multiple selection list widget the other day. I mentioned that there was no good way to implement such a thing in IDL, but there were hacks. Deb was kind enough to call that bluff, so here is a hack. :-)

I don't pretend its elegant or the last word on selection widgets, but it took me an hour or so while I was waiting for the kids to get the movie started.

I wrote the list selection part as a compound widget that has an Accept Selection button. Selecting or clicking items in the list toggles the item on or off. These events are "swallowed" by the compound widget. When you hit the Accept Selection button, the compound widget generates an anonymous structure event with an INDEX field. This field is a vector with as many elements as there are items in the list. A one indicates the item is selected, a zero indicates is is not selected. The program using the compound widget can do whatever it likes with the event.

You can get and set the value of the list widget in the normal way. I've included a little TEST program at the bottom of the code to exercise the compound widget, named CW_MLIST. Simply compile this code and type "TEST" to run the program.

The program has NO documentation (tired of writing), but it is pretty trivial so I think you will have no trouble understanding how it works. If I get a few minutes later on, I will probably write this up as a tip and put some documentation in it. :-)

Cheers,

David

```
PRO CW_MList_Cleanup, id
```

```
    ; Cleans up compound widget pointers.
```

```
Widget_Control, id, Get_UValue=info, /No_Copy
IF N_Elements(info) NE 0 THEN BEGIN
  Ptr_Free, info.value
  Ptr_Free, info.on
ENDIF
END;-----
```

```
PRO CW_MList_Set, id, value
```

```
  ; Sets the value of the list widget.
```

```
child = Widget_Info(id, /Child)
Widget_Control, child, Get_UValue=info, /No_Copy
value = ' ' + value
*info.on = BytArr(N_Elements(value))
*info.value = value
Widget_Control, info.listID, Set_Value=value
Widget_Control, child, Set_UValue=info, /No_Copy
END;-----
```

```
FUNCTION CW_MList_Get, id
```

```
  ; Gets the value of the list widget.
```

```
child = Widget_Info(id, /Child)
Widget_Control, child, Get_UValue=info, /No_Copy
length = Max(StrLen(*info.value))
value = StrMid(*info.value, 3, length)
Widget_Control, child, Set_UValue=info, /No_Copy
RETURN, value
END;-----
```

```
FUNCTION CW_MList_Events, event
```

```
  ; Handles compound widget events. All list widget
  ; events are swallowed.
```

```
thisEvent = Tag_Names(event, /Structure_Name)
```

```
IF thisEvent EQ 'WIDGET_LIST' THEN BEGIN
  child = Widget_Info(event.handler, /Child)
  Widget_Control, child, Get_UValue=info, /No_Copy
```

```

IF (*info.on)(event.index) THEN $
  (*info.on)(event.index) = 0 ELSE $
  (*info.on)(event.index) = 1

thisItem = (*info.value)(event.index)
length = StrLen(thisItem)
IF (*info.on)(event.index) THEN BEGIN
  StrPut,thisItem,'*', 1
ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
  StrPut,thisItem,' ', 1
ENDELSE
(*info.value)(event.index) = thisItem
Widget_Control, event.id, Set_Value=*info.value
Widget_Control, child, Set_UValue=info, /No_Copy
RETURN, 0
ENDIF

IF thisEvent EQ 'WIDGET_BUTTON' THEN BEGIN
  child = Widget_Info(event.handler, /Child)
  Widget_Control, child, Get_UValue=info, /No_Copy
  on = *info.on
  cw_tlb = info.cw_tlb
  Widget_Control, child, Set_UValue=info, /No_Copy
  RETURN, {ID:cw_tlb, TOP:event.top, $
    HANDLER:0L, INDEX:on}
ENDIF
END;-----

```

```

FUNCTION CW_MLIST, parent, Value=value, UValue=uvalue, $
  _Extra=extra

```

```

IF N_Elements(value) EQ 0 THEN value=""
IF N_Elements(uvalue) EQ 0 THEN uvalue='CW_MLIST'

```

```

value = ' ' + value

```

```

cw_tlb = Widget_Base(parent, $
  UValue=uvalue, $
  Column=1, $
  Frame=1, $
  Event_Func='CW_MList_Events', $
  Pro_Set_Value='CW_MList_Set', $
  Func_Get_Value='CW_MList_Get')
listID = Widget_List(cw_tlb, Value=value, _Extra=extra, $
  YSize=N_Elements(value))

```

```
buttonID = Widget_Button(cw_tlb, Value='Accept Selections')
```

```
info = { listID:listID, $  
        buttonID:buttonID, $  
        cw_tlb:cw_tlb, $  
        on:Ptr_New(ByteArr(N_Elements(value))), $  
        value:Ptr_New(value) }
```

```
Widget_Control, listID, Set_UValue=info, /No_Copy, $  
  Kill_Notify='CW_MList_Cleanup'  
RETURN, cw_tlb  
END;-----
```

```
PRO Test_Event, event  
Widget_Control, event.top, Get_UValue=wlist  
Widget_Control, event.id, Get_UValue=buttonEvent
```

```
CASE buttonEvent OF  
  'MLIST': BEGIN  
    items = Where(event.index EQ 1, count)  
    IF count EQ 0 THEN items = 'None Selected'  
    Print, 'Selected Items: ', items  
  END  
  'GET': BEGIN  
    Widget_Control, wlist, Get_Value=thisList  
    Print, thisList  
  ENDCASE  
  'SET': BEGIN  
    newList = ['Man', 'Woman', 'Alien', 'Whosit', 'Thing']  
    Widget_Control, wList, Set_Value=newList  
  ENDCASE  
  'QUIT': Widget_Control, event.top, /Destroy  
ENDCASE  
END;-----
```

```
PRO Test  
tlb = Widget_Base(Column=2)  
leftbase = Widget_Base(tlb, /Column)  
rtbase = Widget_Base(tlb, /Column)  
data = ['dog', 'cat', 'mouse', 'coyote']  
wlist = CW_MList(leftbase, value=data, Ysize=4, UValue='MLIST')  
get = Widget_Button(rtbase, value='Get List Values', UValue='GET')  
set = Widget_Button(rtbase, value='Set List Values', UValue='SET')  
quit = Widget_Button(rtbase, value='Quit', UValue='QUIT')
```

Widget_Control, tlb, /Realize, Set_UValue=wlist
XManager, 'test', tlb, /No_Block
END;-----

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