Subject: ? Keyboard events in idl 4.0.1 ?
Posted by Peter Cornelius on Mon, 25 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT

Hello,

I would like to use the keyboard arrow keys to move around my cursor
on a draw widget (actually, to change its position variable's values)
since it's more convenient this way than fiddling about with a shaky
hand :-)

Any help appreciated.

Thanks in advance,

Peter.

Peter Cornelius <pc***NOSPAM***@inr.fzk.de>

Subject: Re: ? Keyboard events in idl 4.0.1 ?
Posted by David Foster on Mon, 25 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT

Peter Cornelius wrote:
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> Peter.

Peter -

You should get in touch with JD Smith, as he has done some very
clever trickery to get around this problem.

Dave

Here's the text of a recent submission by JD:

But I suppose I should add that not *all* attempts at widget trickery
fail. One of the trickiest widget manipulations I've come up with is
the hotkey widget, which allows textual events to be processed on draw
(or other) widgets, by hiding a text widget behind it (see posts from
last year). I use this technique in almost all of my widget
applications. So, by all means, keep pushing the limits.

Just don't be surprised if the limits snap.

JD
--
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 Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy |*| (607) 255-6263
 304 Space Sciences Bldg. |*| FAX: (607) 255-5875
 Ithaca, NY 14853 |*|
>
> ---
> Peter Cornelius <pc***NOSPAM***@inr.fzk.de>

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   David S. Foster   Univ. of California, San Diego
    Programmer/Analyst   Brain Image Analysis Laboratory
   foster@bial1.ucsd.edu Department of Psychiatry
    (619) 622-5892   8950 Via La Jolla Drive, Suite 2240
                   La Jolla, CA 92037
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Subject: Re: ? Keyboard events in idl 4.0.1 ?
Posted by J.D. Smith on Tue, 26 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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David Foster wrote:
>
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My method was documented by David F. at:

http://www.dfanning.com/tips/keyboard_events.html

Note that it works for events registered by a widget_text widget, which
do not include arrow keys (they used to move within the text field).
Moving the cursor, unless it's really a "sub-cursor" you've programmed,
is also difficult from within IDL. If it really is an IDL-drawn cursor,
you could consider using my method to map its motion to ijkm or some
similar key combination.

You don't mention what system you are using, but you should investigate
an OS solution already provided. Many OS's provide some form of
handicapped access functionality, which may include mouse movements
mapped to arrow keys when a certain key modifier is pressed. I've used
this functionality in the MacOS, and I suspect it is available
elsewhere.

Good Luck,

JD

--
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