

Kepler - Bug #4147

Error message with selectable text

06/11/2009 11:38 AM - Chris Weed

Status:	Resolved	Start date:	06/11/2009
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:	ben leinfelder	% Done:	0%
Category:	core	Estimated time:	0.00 hour
Target version:	3.X.Y	Spent time:	0.00 hour
Bugzilla-Id:	4147		
Description			
When Kepler displays an error message in the pop-up dialog, the text is not selectable so I can copy-paste it into an email. This makes it tedious to report errors or problems, because I have to retype the whole message.			

History

#1 - 06/11/2009 01:14 PM - Christopher Brooks

This would likely be an issue with the Ptolemy Query widget in ptolemy.gui.

I tend not to see this because most error dialogs should be thrown with an Exception and the dialog should have a "Show Stack Trace" button. The error message is selectable in the Stack Trace Window.

However, if someone is invoking GraphicalMessageHandler directly, then the text is probably not selectable.

#2 - 06/11/2009 01:29 PM - Chris Weed

Ah, I never noticed you could get the text from the Stack Trace.

#3 - 06/12/2009 07:53 PM - Christopher Brooks

I'm lowering the priority of this and changing it to an enhancement because the code works as expected.

I agree that it would be nice if the dialog text was selectable, retyping an error message is a waste of human effort.

ptolemy.gui.GraphicalMessageHandler extends ptolemy.gui.UndefinedGraphicalMessageHandler which uses JOptionPane. It appears to be a limitation of JOptionPane that the text is not selectable.

See <http://java.sun.com/docs/books/tutorial/uiswing/components/dialog.html> for JOptionPane examples,

However, all is not lost. JOptionPane has a message argument and if that argument is a String, then a JLabel is created.

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.4.2/docs/api/javaw/swing/JOptionPane.html> says:

```
--start--
message
A descriptive message to be placed in the dialog box. In the most common usage, message is just a String or String constant. However, the type of
this parameter is actually Object. Its interpretation depends on its type:

Object []
    An array of objects is interpreted as a series of messages (one per object) arranged in a vertical stack. The interpretation is recursive -- each object in the array is interpreted according to its type.
    Component
        The Component is displayed in the dialog.
    Icon
        The Icon is wrapped in a JLabel and displayed in the dialog.
    others
        The object is converted to a String by calling its toString method. The result is wrapped in a JLabel and displayed.
--end--
```

So instead of passing a String, I created a method that creates a JTextArea

that looks like a JLabel, but is selectable. I found code at <http://www.rgagnon.com/javadetails/java-0296.html> that got me most of the way there.

So, I modified `ptolemy.gui.UndefinedGraphicalMessageHandler` so that we use a `JTextField`, which looks like a `JLabel`, but is selectable. As a fallback, we will return a `String` if there is a problem.

#4 - 06/12/2009 07:53 PM - Christopher Brooks

Fixed!

#5 - 06/15/2009 04:23 PM - Christopher Brooks

It turns out that this fix causes the dialogs to be very wide because the `JTextArea` is one line, whereas `JLabel` wraps to fit the window. I backed out my changes to `ptolemy.gui.UndefinedGraphicalMessageHandler`. Thus, I'm reopening this bug.

#6 - 08/05/2009 03:13 PM - Christopher Brooks

Using a `JTextField` does not wrap text, so we use a `JTextArea`. I'm closing this one, but let's keep an eye out for impossibly wide dialogs.

#7 - 08/11/2009 02:47 PM - ben leinfelder

Now I'm seeing a frame that is too small to accommodate the text and the buttons - they are chopped off. The text is wrapping, however! Anyone else?

I'm using `MessageHandler.error(String, throwable)`

#8 - 06/26/2012 01:08 PM - Christopher Brooks

In 2009-08-11, Ben wrote:

Now I'm seeing a frame that is too small to accommodate the text and the buttons - they are chopped off. The text is wrapping, however! Anyone else?

I'm using `MessageHandler.error(String, throwable)`

I can't reproduce this. This can probably be closed. I'm assigning it to Ben pending his approval.

#9 - 06/28/2012 11:02 AM - ben leinfelder

If Christopher is happy, I am too. (Not even sure when/where I saw the small dialog those 3 years ago)

#10 - 03/27/2013 02:25 PM - Redmine Admin

Original Bugzilla ID was 4147