TxWin enhanced scripting

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TX enhanced scripting language (as available in DFSee 9.03 and up)







Presentation contents

- DFSee scripting history, design goals and alternatives
- High level layout of TxScript programs
- Script parameters and variables
- Expressions, available operators
- Built-in functions
- Control structures, program flow
- Expression substitution in commands
- Example scripts fragments, from DFSee usage







Who am 1?

Jan van Wijk

- Software Engineer, C, Rexx, Assembly, PHP
- Founded FSYS Software in 2001, developing and supporting DFSee from version 4 to 10.x
- First OS/2 experience in 1987, developing parts of OS/2 1.0 EE (Query Manager, later DB2)
- Used to be a systems-integration architect at a large bank, 500 servers and 7500 workstations
- Now mainly in embedded systems development

Home page: http://www.dfsee.com







Disee scripting history

- Over time, to automate repeating and more complex tasks, several scripting methods have been (and still are!) used with DFSee:
 - BAT/CMD/SHELL scripts, calling DFSee
 - Rexx subcmd environment for OS/2 version
 - Native scripting, being a simple list of DFSee commands, executed sequentially, with simple error handling and parameter substitution







TxScript design goals

- Backwards compatible with existing .DFS scripts as far as possible, allowing re-use
- Direct access to much DFSee internal info, including disk sectors from a script
- Powerful expressions, variables and functions
 Can be used from and in the DFSee commandline too
- Conditional and looping control to allow more intelligent and powerful scripts

Note: For 'DFSee' you can read any hosting program

that uses the TxScript engine from the TxLib library







Do we need another language?

- Trying to avoid re-inventing yet another wheel, some alternatives have been considered:
 - Rexx, as used in OS/2 version already
 - Python, clean OO type language
 - Perl, very powerful, hackers heaven :-)
 - PHP, Ruby etc as used in WEB environments
- All had problems with integration in the hosting program (DFSee), availability on all required platforms, or added complexity for install etc.
- Developing a new language is fun, so YES :-)







High level layout of TxScript

- LINE-oriented, but ignores whitespace usage within and between lines. Each line is either:
 - A comment line (ignored mostly :-)
 - An interpreter 'pragma' altering its behaviour
 - Program flow statements like IF or WHILE
 - An assignment to one or more script variables
 - A command to be passed to the host (DFSee) to be executed, including substitution of expressions







Example for script layout

;script example

;;defaultparam 1 5

IF \$1 < \$_parts

Say \$1 is OK!

ENDIF

- A comment line
- A pragma
- Control statement with an expression
- A command to be executed by DFSee
- End of the Control statement







Script parameters and variables

- Parameters to the script are positional, and named \$1 through \$9, \$0 is the scriptname
- Variables follow the 'Perl' syntax where possible, with a subset of the functionality

\$variable

\$array[index]

%array

\$hash{key}

#hash

a scalar variable

scalar taken from an array

whole array

scalar taken from a hash

whole hash variable







System variables

- Variablenames starting with '\$_' are system variables (DFSee) and are read-only
 - They come as scalar and scalar-from-array variants
- Some examples (there are dozens :-)

```
$_parts
```

\$ disk

\$ this

\$_d_size[X]

\$_p_fsform[Y]

\$_b_sector[Z]

total number of partitions, 1..n

current opened disk number

sector number for current sector

size in sectors for disk nr X

FS-format for partition nr Y

Contents of sector nr Z, in a (512 byte) binary string







Expression and variable values

- Variable and expression values are either:
 - A character string of arbitrary length, may contain any value from 0..255, allowing binary data manipulation
 - A 64-bit signed integer value, allowing huge numbers while maintaining the exact integer value
- Expression operators and built-in functions automatically convert between these
 - Other types like floating-point may be added later







Expressions, operators, functions

- Expression syntax and semantics are pretty close to those defined in 'Perl' and 'C' but are not exactly identical
- Operators work on 1, 2 or 3 operands:

```
Unary, like + -! NOT 1 operand
```

- Binary, like + * < = 2 operands
- Ternary, (cond) ? exp1 : exp2 3 operands
- Textual operators like 'AND' must be uppercase!
- Functions take zero or more arguments and return a value (in an expression)







Operator precedence, high to low

Atom, Term

EQ NE LT GT LE GE

- Variable, indexed and auto incr/decr
- String, number, function nested-expr or ternary
- Unary operators
- Binary multiply/division
- Binary plus/minus
- String replication
- String concatenation
- Numeric bit-shift
- Numeric compare
- Same value AND type
- String compare







Operator precedence, part 2

& Bitwise AND Bitwise XOR Bitwise OR && Logical AND (C-style) Logical OR (C-style) Assignment Comma, multi-expression Logical NOT (Perl style) NOT



AND

OR



Logical AND (Perl style)

Logical OR (Perl style)



Built-in functions, A-F

abs b32 b2asc b2int chr canceled confirmed defined drivefs drivelabel drives drivespace exists filext

fnbase

- Absolute value, numeric
- Clip to 32-bit unsigned
- Binary string to ASCII
- Binary string to reversed int
- ASCII value for number
- Test for canceled last operation
- Confirmation Yes/No/Cancel
- Is variable defined
- FS-name for drive letter
- Label string for drive letter
- All drive letters in string
- Freespace in KiB for drive
- File exists
- Set default file extension
- Extract filename without ext







Built-in functions, G-M

fnfile **fnpath** getcwd h2asc h2int i2dec i2hex index left length makedir max min message

- Extract filename without path
- Extract path only, no filename
- Get current working directory
- Get string from hex-ascii str
- Get integer from hex-ascii str
- Convert int to decimal str
- Convert int to hexadecimal str
- Find substring in string
- Return lowercased string
- Left adjust string, pad/clip
- Get length of string
- Create full directory path
- Ret maximum of values
- Ret minimum of values
- Message popup, until [OK]







Built-in functions, O-Z

ord prompt replace sec2gib sec2kib sec2mib reverse right rindex strip

substr uc undef

- Numeric value 1st char in str
- Popup question, return string
- Replace characters in string
- Get GiB value for #sectors
- Get KiB value for #sectors
- Get MiB value for #sectors
- Reverse characters in string
- Right adjust string pad/clip
- Reverse find substring in str
- Strip leading/trailing chars from a string (default spaces)
- Extract substring from string
- Return uppercased string
- Undefine (free) a variable releasing any used storage







Control structures, branching

IF (condition)

statement-list

ELSEIF (condition)

statement-list

ELSE

statement-list

ENDIF

- Like the Perl IF, not using a {} block but an ENDIF keyword
- () parenthesis on conditions optional
- Any number of the ELSEIF clause
- ELIF, ELSIF and ELSEIF accepted







Control structures, looping

WHILE (condition) statement-list ENDWHILE

FOR init; condition; iterator statement-list ENDFOR

DO statement-list UNTIL (condition)

- Like Perl or 'C' but not using a {} block but an explicit end
- () parenthesis on conditions optional
- Loop can be exited using 'break'
- 'continue' skips code upto the loop iterator







Command expression substitution

 Transparent, replacing expressions by the result of the expression, when starting with a variable:

```
• $ this + 100
```

- Wipe z \$start \$_d_cylsize * 25
- Say You have \$_parts partitions on \$_disks disks
- Explicit, enclose in curly brackets if NOT starting with a variable, or any conflicting syntax:

```
Restore {$imgfile} -P:$partition ;
```

Say we are in: {getcwd()}

; -P would conflict

; not a variable







Miscellaneous comments

- Keywords are case-insensitive (IF, WHILE)
- Parenthesis on conditions are optional
- Conditions must be on a single line, or use explicit line continuation
- Lines are 'continued' using '\' as last char allowing long expressions to be spread over more than one physical line







Miscellaneous comments

- Script syntax is checked BEFORE running any statement, except expressions to be substituted in commands (to be refined :-)
- Single '\$' characters in commands will be left 'as-is' so can be used freely, but when directly followed by any alphabetic a-z/A-Z it could be mistaken for a variable and you need to escape that by doubling the '\$' character as: '\$\$'
- There may be application level mechanisms too, that allow switching variable substitution on/off.
 Would result in better readable commands ...







Considered improvements

- User defined functions or subroutines
- More/better array and hash variable handling and manipulation (perl like)
- Floating point variables
- Basic file-I/O, read/write text and binary







Set default parameters, in named variables

```
;disk to work on, 0 = auto
;;defaultparam 1 0
;;defaultparam 2 '$0' ;default image name
;;defaultparam 3 2
                   ;minimum number of disks
                   ;maximum number of disks
;;defaultparam 4 99
log $0
               ;same as scriptname
stick = $1
= $2
dmin = 3
$dmax = $4
$stickmsg = "bootable multi-ISO, (USB) disk"
```







Check DFSee version and number of disks

```
if $ version >= 1000
 if ($ disks >= $dmin) && ($ disks <= $dmax)
  : ... do the real work ...
 else
  confirm Need $dmin to $dmax disks, got: $ disks
 endif
else
 confirm Script needs DFSee 10.x (this is $ version)
endif
```







Get size + number smallest accessible disk (taken from the DFSUSB32.DFS script)

```
$size = 99999999
for $disk = 1; $disk <= $_disks; $disk++
   if $_d_size[ $disk] < $size
      if $_d_access[ $disk]
        $stick = $disk
        $size = $_d_size[ $stick]
      endif
   endif
endfor</pre>
```







;Create a FAT32 partition on a memory stick

```
cr -d:$stick pri fat32 -M -o -L:"-v:Sdata -p:Stick2 -I:*"
if $ rc == 0
 'format' -f:32 -v:DfStickdata
 if $ rc == 0
  lvm -n:DFSeeUSBStickBIG -d:$stick
  $exitmsg = FAT32 created and formatted."
 else
  $exitmsg = Create FAT32 partition failed!"
 endif
endif
part -d:$stick
```







Example - recovery script core

```
confirm -y Recreate $parts partitions on disk $work
if $ rc == 0
 $done = 0
 while (1); single pass, allow break from section
   ; ... multiple recovery sections here (see next slide)
   break
 endwhile
 part -d -n
 if $done == $parts
  confirm $done partitions done~~Press a key to exit
 endif
else
 confirm Recovery canceled by user
endif
```







Example - recovery script section

```
;add one section for every partition, with specific message
cr pri bmgr 1 -a:0,c -F -I-
if $ rc == 0
 $done++
else
 confirm Create partition $done +1 failed $abortmsg
 break
endif
cr log hpfs 2000 -at:6001,c -L:"-v:eCS -p:Boot -I:C -menu"
if $ rc == 0
 $done++
else
 confirm Create partition $done +1 failed $abortmsg
 break
endif
```







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Questions?





