

AutoCLI V1.84 21st Aug 1990 by Nic Wilson

BUG FIXES & CHANGES SINCE THE VERSION ON MEGADISC 17

THE FOLLOWING BUGS AND CHANGES CAN ONLY BE GUARANTEED ON
VERSIONS

1.82 AND HIGHER.

BUGS

1. FUNCTION KEY SCRIPT FILES WOULD OFTEN CAUSE A SYSTEM HANG OR
GURU.

Now Fixed. Caused by priority inheritance problem.

2. IF AutoCLI WAS LAUNCHED IN MIXED CASE, REMOVAL WAS NOT
POSSIBLE.

Now Fixed. Any case mixture is acceptable

3. MOUSE BLANKING (-b) SOMETIMES GAVE A VERTICAL BAR ON THE
SCREEN.

Now Fixed. Now manipulates copper list instead of Sprite DMA.

4. MOUSE BLANKING (-b) SOMETIMES CAUSED CERTAIN PROGRAMS TO
HANG.

Now Fixed. DMA problem. Same bug as above.

5. CUSTOM CLI WINDOWS DID NOT WORK IF TIME BLANKING OPTION USED.

Now Fixed. Programming bug.

6. (-w) OPTION SOMETIMES DID NOT WORK.

Now Fixed. Intuition problem, now using Layers instead.

7. SCREEN BLANKING HUNG THE SYSTEM IF DRIVE WAS BEING ACCESSED.

Now Fixed. DMA problem, fixed by manipulating copper lists.

8. ON 68020 OR 68030 AMIGA, FUNCTION KEYS WOULD OFTEN CRASH

Fixed in 1.83. Needed slight delay before changing priority.

9. MOUSE BLANKING IMPROVED FURTHER.

Done in 1.84

CHANGES

Addition of options window that allows, changes to your options

without having to remove and relaunch. See main docs below for instructions on its use.

KNOWN BUGS OR CONFLICTS

Problems have been encountered with non standard versions of the 'RUN'

command. This command is called by dos.library's 'execute' command. If

you have problems with the Amiga crashing when a CLI is popped up then

make sure the 'run' command is standard. The one I use came from an

original 1.3.2 workbench and has a filesize of 2568 bytes. It is also

recommended that ARP Library commands are not used, as they are not

very compatible and can cause various problems.SUGGESTIONS

If AutoCLI does not have your favourite function, or you can think

of any improvements, then write and tell me. The best suggestions

will receive a full version of NoVirus free of charge.

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PROGRAM SUMMARY

This program was written because of problems with the similar program I

have been using called 'popcli'. Popcli crashes if used under WorkBench/KickStart 2.0, and also if used on a PAL Amiga to open a CLI window with a vertical size greater than 200 lines, it will not open if your Amiga decides to start in NTSC mode as they sometimes do. Popcli also seems to waste CPU time when waiting and doesn't allow you to remove it from memory without crashing or a reboot. AutoCLI overcomes all of the above problems and has many added features equivalent to other programs around, but uses less CPU time. In fact while waiting it uses 0.0% (as seen in 'Xoper'). AutoCLI was written in 100% Assembler using Devpac Amiga V2.14.

Hand coded assembler is definately the best way to program. The code is small and executes very quickly as compared to coding in 'C' or other language, as the code generated would be much larger and slower. This can be noticed by running a program like 'xoper' that shows a percentage of CPU time that each task is using. The only time AutoCLI uses time is if an event sends it a signal to do something. A lot of programmers that do not use assembler, code the event handler in C:, which is against good programming practise, as stated in the Amiga Rom Kernal Reference Manual, Libraries and Devices Revised and Updated.

FEATURES

- * Kickstart / Workbench 1.2, 1.3, 2.0 compatible
- * Compatible with A500, A1000, A2000, A2500, A3000
- * Default or custom CLI / Shell windows
- * Default windows open to 1 pixel less than current screen
- * Function key scripts option
- * Options window allows modification while running
- * Active window to front option
- * Screen shuffle option
- * Window shuffle option
- * Screen blanking after time period option
- * Mouse blanking on key press or time option
- * Mouse acceleration option
- * No CPU time wastage
- * 100% machine code
- * Freely distributable

PROGRAM USAGE FOR INSTALLING AutoCLI

AutoCLI [<optional switches>] [<optional seconds>] [<optional command>]

DO NOT USE RUN or RUNBACK as it will return the command line and allow the window it was launched from to close, when an ENDCLI command is given. Yet it still retains the directory it was launched from and does not lose the current path or stack as some programs do. This means that when a CLI is popped up it will

default to the directory that was current, when AutoCLI was launched.

The path and stack that was set, will still be valid.

The program is mainly designed to be used in your startup-sequence

so you will always have a CLI window available very easily. For best

results, AutoCLI should reside in your C: directory.

OPTIONAL SWITCHES

The following switches do not have to be given in any particular order, but must all be before the optional seconds and command parameters.

All options default to OFF and must be enabled with a switch.

Any of these options can be modified after launch, by using the

Option Window provided. (see OPTIONS WINDOW below)

-f This switch enables function key trapping. When your qualifier (see below) is held down and a function key pressed, the

 program will execute a script file in the assigned S: directory with a filename of autocli.f1 to autocli.f10.

 This file must be a normal script (eg. startup-sequence).

-w This switch enables the window to front option. To use this function, select the window you want at the front by clicking the left mouse inside the window and then hold your qualifier key (see below) and press the Left ALT key.

-n This switch enables the screen shuffle option. To use this function, hold down your qualifier key and use the cursor up or down keys. These keys rotate all screens in opposite directions to each other. This is different to the standard LEFT AMIGA N & M. These standard keys only swap between the front and rear most screens.

-m This switch enables the window shuffle option. To use this function, hold down your qualifier key and use the cursor left or right keys. This will move the front most window to the back or the back most window to the front respectively. The window shuffle always occurs on the screen that is at the front. This allows you to easily move between windows and screens by using the qualifier and all the cursor keys

-q This switch enables mouse acceleration, If you find that it is too fast, slow it down in preferences. The amount it speeds the mouse up by depends on the speed the mouse is being moved. As it moves quicker the acceleration rate increases and as it slows down the acceleration rate also decreases.

-b This switch enables mouse blanking. When any key is pressed the mouse pointer will be immediately blanked, or if no mouse movement is detected within 30 seconds the mouse pointer will be blanked. As soon as the mouse is moved at all the pointer will be returned immediately. This overcomes the annoying habit of the pointer always being in the way while typing.

-s -c -a The default qualifier key is the LEFT AMIGA but this can be changed with a switch. The -s switch changes the qualifier key to the SHIFT key. The -c switch changes it to the CONTROL key, and the -a switch changes it to the ALT key. To use the default key (LEFT AMIGA) then don't use any of these three switches. Note that this qualifier key is also the same for the autocli function as well.

-r The above qualifier is, by default, the key on the LEFT side of the keyboard. To change this to the RIGHT side, use this switch.

? If the switch is a single question mark, then AutoCLI will display a USAGE string on the current CLI window. It will not install or remove itself.

remove This switch should be used on its own. It will signal the current version of AutoCLI to shut down and remove itself. Whenever it attempts this removal, a success or failure message will be displayed on the CLI window.

OPTIONS WINDOW

This function is always available, even if function key scripts (-f) is turned off. It is accessed by holding the qualifier key and pressing HELP. A window will open on the front most screen with gadgets set with your current options. Click on the gadgets to turn functions on or off. Screen blanking time can be changed by clicking in the gadget and changing it accordingly. If you turn screen blanking on, but give no time, then a default time of 300 seconds will be set. At the bottom of the window are two gadgets, 'OK' and 'REMOVE'. The remove gadget will remove AutoCLI from memory completely. The ok gadget will set the new options you have made.

OPTIONAL SECONDS

This is an optional time (in seconds) to blank the screen when no user input is detected. The default is off, so if blanking is not

wanted then
do not give a time at all. When the screen has been blanked, it
can be
turned on again by touching any key or moving the mouse.
Because it only
requires a single rawmouse event, we have found that giving your
computer
table a nudge is sufficient to turn the display on again.

OPTIONAL COMMAND

If no optional command is given then AutoCLI will use a default
command.

AutoCLI will launch and wait for your qualifier key and ESCAPE
to be

pressed. When this event occurs AutoCLI will open a CLI window
1 pixel

less than the size of the WorkBench Screen at the time it is
opened. So

if resolution mode is changed AutoCLI will notice the change.

If NEWCON:

is available, a Shell window will open instead of a CLI window.

If an optional command is given, AutoCLI will execute that
command

in preference to the default CLI/SHELL window when your
qualifier key

and ESCAPE is pressed (see EXAMPLES). This allows custom
commands or

custom size CLI/Shell windows to be used. Note that if AutoCLI
is already

in memory it will display an error message on the current CLI
window.

EXAMPLES-----

AutoCLI -f -w -n -m -r -s 600 newshell
newcon:0/10/640/150/MyShell
(opens a Shell window with a title of 'MyShell', enables
function
keys, selects the RIGHT SHIFT as your qualifier, enables the
window
to front option ,enables the screen shuffle option, enables
the
window shuffle and will blank the screen after 10 mins of
non use).

AutoCLI -f -w YourProg
(runs a file called YourProg. When LEFT AMIGA/ESCAPE is
pressed
enables function keys and window to front and will disable
the screen blanking ie. no time given).

AutoCLI remove
(attempts to remove the currently running version from
memory
and displays a success or failure message).

REQUIREMENTS

The following commands MUST be available in the current C:
directory :-

run	; c directory (called by the DOS Execute function)
newcli	; c directory (called by AutoCLI if NEWCON not available)
newshell	; c directory (called by AutoCLI if NEWCON is available)
shell-seg	; l directory (needed if newcon: is mounted)
AutoCLI	; c directory

The following commands, devices, files are optional :-

cli-startup	; s directory (script executed by Newcli)
shell-startup	; s directory (script executed by NewShell)
NEWCON:	; (must be mounted to enable Shell instead of CLI)
AutoCLI.F1	; s directory (script file for qualifier/F1)

AutoCLI.F2 ; s directory (script file for qualifier/F2)
...etc.

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