QGIS Application - Feature request #9288 add \$map, \$composer variables to expression builder

2014-01-04 02:46 AM - Mathieu Pellerin - nIRV

Status:	Closed	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:		
Category:		
Pull Request or Patch shipplied:		Resolution:
Easy fix?:	No	Copied to github as #: 17899

Description

Looking at the atlas expression variable, I realized a \$map and \$composer variables would be really useful.

The \$map variable would return:

- 'canvas' when main qgis canvas is being drawn
- 'map 0', 'map 1', etc. when the corresponding qgis composer map items are redrawn.

The \$composer variable would return composer name if drawn within a composer, or null if drawn by main qgis canvas.

It would greatly expend what can be done via multiple map items in composer sheets. Right now, it's pretty much limited to the [x] lock layers option.

Associated revisions

Revision c45bf504 - 2014-01-05 03:25 AM - Nyall Dawson

Implement \$map variable, which returns the current composer map item id where the map is being drawn, or 'canvas' if the map is being drawn in the main QGIS window. Partly implements #9288.

History

#1 - 2014-01-04 03:08 AM - Nathan Woodrow

What use is the \$map variable?

#2 - 2014-01-04 03:11 AM - Mathieu Pellerin - nIRV

\$map returns the composer's map item name (i.e. 'map 0', 'map 1') when drawing onto a composer map item, or 'canvas' when drawing onto the qgis main window.

#3 - 2014-01-04 03:33 AM - Nathan Woodrow

Sure I understand what it returns what I don't see is the use case. Can you explain it a bit more. Maybe with a example.

#4 - 2014-01-04 06:26 PM - Nyall Dawson

- Status changed from Open to Closed

Fixed in changeset commit: "c45bf504e761e568e1bc100eda0edc3e00213907".

2025-06-13 1/2

#5 - 2014-01-04 06:27 PM - Nyall Dawson

Needs to be re-opened. This is only partly implemented.

#6 - 2014-01-04 06:30 PM - Nathan Woodrow

I still don't see the use case for this. The value will change. If you have 3 map windows what is the expected outcome?

#7 - 2014-01-04 10:12 PM - Mathieu Pellerin - nIRV

(Summing up the discussion over IRC)

Case scenario #1:

- User wants to output a large A2 poster with 4 map items showing a number of sub-provincial divisions and want to highlight via polygon fill color the focus sub-division in each of the map item. The user input the sub-provincial division ID (let's say defined by a "division_id" column) to each map item ID and use the following data-defined expression for the color fill: "if \$map = \$division_id" (150,150,0)' else '(255,255,255)'" or use the rule-based symbology with the following filter "\$map = \$division_id"

Case scenario #2:

- User wants to output one page with two map items showing different POIs from one point layer (say an OSM point layer export). The user sets each map item ID to use a string (i.e. 'bars', 'hotels') that will be used in an expression to match a column's content in the point layer, says "\$map = \$feature_amnenity"

#8 - 2014-01-06 07:50 PM - Mathieu Pellerin - nIRV

- File map-var-showcase.png added

Attaching a screenshot that showcases a very basic use of the \$map variable to highlight a specific polygon via a color fill data-defined expression matching a polygon's ID to the \$map item name. It also uses a data-defined expression to show the label for the highlighted polygon.

Files

map-var-showcase.png 227 KB 2014-01-06 Mathieu Pellerin - nIRV

2025-06-13 2/2