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Subject: bug in tvtwm (X11R5 version)

Posted by [liu](#) on Fri, 20 Aug 1993 14:02:36 GMT

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I am running the X11R5 version of tvtwm (patch level 7) under Xsun server. The problem is that I can not run any widget applications of IDL (Interactive Data language, Version 3.0.0). Whenever I move the cursor into an IDL widget window, the window manager tvtwm dies and I am logged out.

Could this be due to a similar problem that twm of X11R4 was known to have and got fixed in X11R5 version of twm? The following analysis of the twm (X11R4) problem is enclosed just in case it might shed some light on the problem with tvtwm of X11R5. I'd appreciate it if anyone can provide a fix or a way to get around the problem.

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The problem turns out to be a bug in the R4 twm.

In version 2.3.0, IDL started installing the WM\_COLORMAP\_WINDOWS property on the top level shell of widget trees that contain draw widgets. This tells the window manager to install the proper colormap for those draw widgets when they get the pointer focus. This is only important when the draw widget is not using the default shared colormap. It had become more of a problem recently with the increasing number of workstations with 24-bit frame buffers.

The presence of the WM\_COLORMAP\_WINDOWS property causes twm to crash. Steve Swales of the University of Rochester Laboratory for Laser Energetics has already seen this problem and has patched the R4 twm to solve it. The patch is available for anonymous ftp from boulder.colorado.edu (128.138.240.1). It is in pub/idl/fixed\_r4\_twm.tar.Z.

Thanks to Greg Hennessy (University of Virginia) for discovering the problem and tracking down the solution. Thanks to Steve Swales for sharing his fix with the rest of us.

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