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Subject: Re: xdemo crashes twm in IDL 2.3  
Posted by [ali](#) on Wed, 20 May 1992 17:22:46 GMT  
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Greg Hennessy (gsh7w@virginia.edu) writes:

- > Having just upgraded from 2.2.1 to 2.3.0 and trying to get the new
- > improved xdemo package running, I found that xdemo causes twm to croak
- > with a segmentation violation, which means that most people's X11
- > session comes to a screeching halt. The problem comes after the call
- > to XMANAGER. A quick test shows that olwm does not crash.
- >
- > This is on a Sun 3/260 running 4.1.1 and X11R4 pl 18.

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. Steven Swales of the University of Rochester Laboratory for Laser Energetics has already seen this problem and has patched the R4 twm to solve it. I have made it available for anonymous ftp from boulder.colorado.edu (128.138.240.1). It is in pub/idl/fixed\_r4\_twm.tar.Z.

Steven tells me that he intends to check the R5 twm to see if it still has this problem, and if so, to report it to MIT. At this point we don't know if the problem exists in R5 or not.

Thanks to Greg for discovering the problem and tracking down the solution. Thanks to Steven for sharing his fix with the rest of us.

- Ali

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