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Subject: Re: The 'MAC' device and the 'CURSOR\_IMAGE' keyword

Posted by [szoonem](#) on Tue, 24 Sep 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <32466B11.7B16@casa.colorado.edu>, David Theil  
<theil@casa.colorado.edu> wrote:

> Does anyone know how to manipulate the cursor under the mac version  
> of IDL? When I try to set the cursor\_image keyword in a device call  
> I get an error 'Keyword CURSOR\_IMAGE not allowed in call to: DEVICE'.  
>  
> I have done this successfully under UNIX IDL, so what gives? None of  
> the documentation suggests this might be a problem.  
>  
> I have some other Mac IDL specific questions:  
> xloadct does not work properly on my mac. Changing the color table does  
> not update the currently displayed graphics. Why?  
>  
> I reinstalled IDL to try to fix the above problem. Now when I type '?'  
> at the prompt, IDL fails to open the online help application. I  
> get no error and this worked fine before. Anybody got any ideas?  
> -----  
> David Theil  
>  
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>  
>  
>                      No guts, no glory.

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The IDL addendum for Mac OS states that the Mac OS does not allow  
manipulation of the cursor by any method except the mouse. They are right.  
I believe that is fundamental to the operating system and cannot be  
changed.

I have the same problem with xloadct which is a more general problem than  
the one you stated. It seems that IDL under Mac OS does not update windows  
dynamically. For instance if you have a plot window open and change your  
color table with loadct (instead of xloadct) the new colors are not  
updated until you redraw the window from within IDL or by covering and  
uncovering outside the IDL. I suspect that has to do with the nature of  
the OS and the fact that it is driven via apple events and IDL is not  
written optimally for Mac OS.

I have no idea what is happening with the online help. First, are you sure that the online help alias exists in the same folder as the IDL application itself. Of course if all else fails, why don't you just double click on the "IDL Help" alias to launch it and keep it in the background.

Hope the above is useful.

- Saeid

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