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Subject: Re: WShow Prayers Answered!

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 10 Oct 2010 23:16:05 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

```
>> I've been praying for a LONG time. This is the first
>> time I can remember my prayers being answered!
>>
>> This morning, like every morning, I typed "wshow"
>> to bring my IDL graphics window to the foreground,
>> and today it worked!!!
>>
>> My goodness gracious! I have NO idea what changed.
>> I just know I am NEVER getting out of this IDL session!
>
> Well, I'm still in this session. I'm just working the
> way I normally do. Now WShow works sporadically. I have
> not been able to discover what conditions, if any,
> cause it to work, and which don't. It's about as
> reliable as the dog.
>
> I feel my faith ebbing and flowing. Do you
> suppose I'm not praying hard enough? Back to
> the rosary, I guess. :-(
```

Alright. Are you ready for this? Please sit down.

It turns out this probably has nothing to do with prayer. (I know, I'm disappointed, too.)

Here are the details. Windows 7 64-bit OS, with this IDL version:

```
{ x86_64 Win32 Windows Microsoft Windows 8.0 Jun 17 2010 64 64}
```

If I open a graphics window with the Window command, that window will never come to the foreground with the WSHOW command.

UNLESS, I then open a widget window. Here is the code I use to open a widget window (I can use any widget program I have hanging around, but I wanted to reduce the problem to its essentials.)

```
.*****
,
PRO junk
tlb = Widget_base()
```

```
draw = Widget_Draw(tlb, xsize=200, ysize=200)
widget_control, tlb, /realize
xmanager, 'tlb', tlb, /No_block
END
.*****
,
```

Now the first IDL graphics window will come forward on the display with WSHOW. I can kill the widget window and the graphics window will \*still\* come forward. If I kill the display window and open another one, I have the same problem: WSHOW doesn't work again. Opening a widget window mysteriously wakes it up!

If I have multiple IDL graphics windows on the display, they ALL ignore the WSHOW command. Until I run "junk". Then they all respond normally to WSHOW.

If I run this sequence:

```
IDL> window, 0
IDL> junk
IDL> window, 1
```

Then neither window 0 or window 1 will respond to the WSHOW command!!

Extremely weird. Now I'm worried about demons... :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")