
Subject: Re: Plot3D bug in 8.1

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 09 May 2011 13:33:06 GMT

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David Grier writes:

```
> I've confirmed that the following code works in IDL 8.0.1
> but fails in 8.1, even though the documentation for Plot3D
> has not changed between the two versions:
>
> x = randomu(seed, 100)
> y = randomu(seed, 100)
> z = randomu(seed, 100)
> orb = orb()
> p = plot3d(x, y, z, SYM_OBJECT = orb)
>
> In IDL 8.0.1, this creates an object graphics plot with
> spheres at the vertices.
>
> By contrast, IDL 8.1 emits the following error message,
> and no plot:
> % PLOT3D: Unknown property: SYM_OBJECT
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
> This quite clearly is a bug, therefore.
>
> Strangely enough, iplot still understands the SYM_OBJECT keyword
> in IDL 8.1.
```

I don't know whether this has anything at all to do with my theory of IDL 8 function graphics, but it is exactly the kind of error I would have predicted for these overly complex programs. My theory is that it will be nearly impossible to make modifications to these programs without breaking something else. If my theory is correct, we should see more errors of this type whenever there is a new IDL release.

Cheers,

David

--

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

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