

---

Subject: Function Graphics Bugs Depressing  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 20 Oct 2011 14:48:40 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Folks,

The latest batch of function graphics bugs I am working on is turning me into a depressed shell of a programmer. Most of the bugs in my recent Bug a Day presentation schedule seem benign enough to me. At least I can imagine that someone could go into the code and fix them in a relatively short amount of time.

The bugs I am working on today, however, seem to be of a different sort. They seem to be ingrained into the fabric of the function graphics design. I might call them "bugs of unintended consequence." It is exactly what one might expect of an overly complex system that is extremely difficult for a single person, not to mention a team of people, to understand.

I'll be reporting on these in the days ahead, as time permits, but it is getting harder and harder to get up in the morning and see a bright future for IDL along the current path. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---