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Subject: Re: X window requirement for batch jobs: not just for plotting

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 14:42:50 GMT

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Ed Hyer writes:

- > So, we all know that if you have a job that generates a plot, and you
- > need it to run automated, you have to either:
- > 1) use the Z buffer for everything;
- > 2) use the X virtual frame buffer to "spooof" an X terminal;
- >
- > But this requirement is clearly triggered by commands that have
- > nothing to do with plotting. The obvious example is widgets, but I am
- > currently dealing with a piece of code that has no plotting and no
- > widgets, but at a certain point in the code it insists on having an X
- > terminal available, and crashes if there is none.
- >
- > Tomorrow's job is to identify exactly what call is the culprit (I'm
- > wondering if it isn't maybe READ\_TIFF), and figure out a solution
- > along the lines of #1 above, but I thought I'd ask:
- >
- > What other types of commands, that I wouldn't expect, might be asking
- > for an X terminal?

Oh, my gosh, the list seems endless! Anything that has to deal with device coordinates (coord\_convert, etc.) comes to mind. Anything that deals in any way with the OS. Practically anything you write! I would look everywhere. ;-)

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.")

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