Subject: Re: MAP_SET error: linux
Posted by Andy Loughe on Fri, 06 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Geez, Bob, having a bad day?
>
> Not even RSI has unlimited resources. Things have to be prioritized.
> Given the huge number of changes that IDL 5 has required and the
> problems that inevitably arise, I don't find it hard to believe that
> a grid line, for goodness sake, gets a low priority.

David,

It appears you don't rely heavily upon map_set when using IDL.
These "low priority" grid line issues are *very* important to
me. At our lab we are judged not only by the quality of our
research, but also by the quality of the presentation of that
research. Next week we will present work to ABC television,
and I will use map_set to illustrate development of the current
El Nino. If these maps (to be presented in a movie loop using
Xinteranimate) all have a missing grid lines, to me and other geography
types it will make the presentation look second rate. If the same
occurs when I submit graphics for final publication to a journal,
the presentation will look second rate to thousands of journal
subscribers. I hope you see my point. Sure, there may be simple
work arounds to this, but have fun applying those work arounds to all
your IDL code which uses map_set. Software is supposed to make your
life simpler and more enjoyable... to increase your productivity, not
the other way around!

I agree with Bob that it is frustrating to have a bug identified,
but not fixed. I've been there before, I'm there now. Certainly
I underestimate the magnitude of the task being undertaken by RSI,
but I hope they can be responsive, especially to those who put forth
the effort (at no charge) to beta test their proposed new releases.

Andy

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Andrew F. Loughe |
afl@cdc.noaa.gov
University of Colorado, CIRES Box 449 |
http://cdc.noaa.gov/~afl
Boulder, CO 80309-0449 | phn:(303)492-0707
fax:(303)497-7013

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"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with
sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forego their use."
-Galileo