
Subject: Re: vector print bug ?

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 14 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Dr. Udo Grabowski (grabow@darkstar.inka.de) writes:

```
> In idl 5.3 there is the new IDLgrPrinter class with the Draw method
> for vector plots:
>
>         Printer = OBJ_NEW ('IDLgrPrinter', vector=1)
>         Printer -> Draw, Scene
>
> The output is supposed to be an eps file, but we are not able to print
> or view or include this plot (yes, it has a 'showpage' at the end) with
> any tool available to us. We tried several options, but nothing helps.
> Is this a possible bug ? Or belongs it to that class of scrap Windows
> believes to be PostScript (we are using Unix: OSF, Linux, and Solaris,
> of course) ?
```

Not sure what documentation you are reading, but my documentn doesn't say anything about sending output to a file at all. It says that output is sent to the printer in vector (as opposed to bitmap) form. Of course, you might be able to re-direct the output to a PostScript file if your Dialog_PrinterSetup will allow it. (My Lexmark printer setup allows all kinds of things, including redirection to a Postscript file, but encapsulated PostScript is not among them.)

And, in addition, my documentation says to use the VECTOR keyword as a keyword to the DRAW method:

```
Printer = OBJ_NEW ('IDLgrPrinter')
ok = Dialog_PrinterSetup(Printer)
IF OK THEN Printer -> Draw, Scene, vector=1
```

When I do this I find I get significantly faster rendering to the printer. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: vector print bug ?

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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junkbuster <grabow@darkstar.inka.de> wrote in message
news:38A89781.50189880@darkstar.inka.de...

> Hello !

>

> In idl 5.3 there is the new IDLgrPrinter class with the Draw method
> for vector plots:

>

> Printer = OBJ_NEW ('IDLgrPrinter', vector=1)

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> any tool available to us. We tried several options, but nothing helps.
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> believes to be PostScript (we are using Unix: OSF, Linux, and Solaris,
> of course) ?

Whereas on my machine, if I print (vector or bitmap format) through one of
the built-in Postscript printer drivers and divert the output to a file,
then I get a Postscript file I can view in Ghostscript or send to a PS
printer.

I am using Windows, of course. It looks like you need to upgrade.

Mark Hadfield

m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz <http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield/>

National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research

PO Box 14-901, Wellington, New Zealand

Subject: Re: vector print bug ?

Posted by [mallors](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <950573781.523241@clam-55>,

"Mark Hadfield" <m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz> writes:

>

[SNIP]

> Whereas on my machine, if I print (vector or bitmap format) through one of
> the built-in Postscript printer drivers and divert the output to a file,
> then I get a Postscript file I can view in Ghostscript or send to a PS
> printer.

```
> I am using Windows, of course. It looks like you need to upgrade.
```

Certainly you can't meant that Unix -> Windows is an upgrade ;-)

Sorry I couldn't resist, but Word just crashed again, as it did yesterday as well...

Regards,

-bob

Robert S. Mallozzi 256-544-0887
Mail Code SD 50
<http://gammaray.msfc.nasa.gov/> Marshall Space Flight Center
<http://cspar.uah.edu/~mallozzir/> Huntsville, AL 35812
~~~~~

Subject: Re: vector print bug ?  
Posted by [Udo Grabowski](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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It is in IDL 5.3 for Unix (OSF1, Solaris, Linux).

Dr. Udo Grabowski email: [udo.grabowski@imk.fzk.de](mailto:udo.grabowski@imk.fzk.de)  
 Institut f. Meteorologie und Klimaforschung II, Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe  
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<http://www.fzk.de/imk/imk2/ame/grabowski/> Fax: " -6141

Subject: Re: vector print bug ?  
Posted by [Udo Grabowski](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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A further investigation showed that this bug only applies to the black and white entries of the color palette. Defining a palette (indexed color) for the printer where these entries are swapped helps to avoid this trap until a bug fix is available.

--

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Subject: Re: vector print bug ?  
Posted by [Ben Tupper](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Hello,

Udo Grabowski wrote:

> Nevertheless, we found out that this is indeed a bug in the Unix version.

Can you tell us if the bug was in the UNIX version of IDL 5.3 or was it in some UNIX software.

Thanks, Ben

--

Ben Tupper

Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science  
tupper@seadas.bigelow.org

pemaquidriver@tidewater.net

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Subject: Re: vector print bug ?  
Posted by [Udo Grabowski](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Yes, I was a bit sloppy, the vector keyword belongs to the draw method.  
Nevertheless, we found out that this is indeed a bug in the Unix version.  
In the generated postscript file, the background is plotted at first,  
then they draw the curves, but without resetting the drawing color !  
So curves are always drawn with the background color. Explicitly setting  
the color for the curves does not help. We "fixed" this error temporarily  
by inserting the appropriate color setting commands directly into the  
postscript file.....

--

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Subject: Re: vector print bug ?  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 16 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Mark Hadfield (m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz) writes:

> The original poster (i.e. person who posted the message--there must be a  
> better word)

I offer "P-PostIt", pronounced Puh-Post-It. Short for  
the "Putter who Posted It".

> If I have a month or two to spare, I  
> might even install Linux on my PC :-)

I think we should all bring our portables to the IDL  
Expert Programmers Association meeting next month and  
get JD to give a seminar on how to get the damn things  
working with Linux. At least then we would all be on  
the same page and could share code without having to  
spend half our waking hours debugging "cross-platform  
compatible" code. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
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A more simple workaround is to plot a small curve with color=[254,255,255]  
somewhere (nearly invisible) and add it as the FIRST component to the  
view object. For all subsequent plot objects the color is then forced to  
be switched back to black in the postscript files automatically.

--

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Subject: Re: vector print bug ?

Posted by [Udo Grabowski](#) on Thu, 17 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Mark Hadfield wrote:

>> ...customers) to doing things in a Windows-ish, and therefore wrong, way.

You captured the point, congratulations ! I really like these flame threads :-))))

--

Dr. Udo Grabowski

email: [udo.grabowski@imk.fzk.de](mailto:udo.grabowski@imk.fzk.de)

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Subject: Re: vector print bug ?

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Thu, 17 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Robert S. Mallozzi <[mallors@ips1.msfc.nasa.gov](mailto:mallors@ips1.msfc.nasa.gov)> wrote in message  
news:88canv\$jtn\$1@hammer.msfc.nasa.gov...

> In article <950573781.523241@clam-55>,

>

> Certainly you can't meant that Unix -> Windows is

> an upgrade ;-)

Well, that WAS what I meant to imply, but I left out the :-)

The original poster (i.e. person who posted the message--there must be a better word) complained about a problem with IDL on Unix, but SOMEHOW he managed to blame it on Windows. If there's something wrong with IDL on Windows, then it's Windows' fault, and if there's something wrong with IDL on Unix, then it's also Windows' fault, because the programmers at RSI have been seduced by the Evil Empire (or the Evil Empire's large number of customers) to doing things in a Windows-ish, and therefore wrong, way.

> Sorry I couldn't resist, but Word just crashed again, as

> it did yesterday as well...

Unix applications never crash?

But the LAST thing I want to do is get religious about operating systems.

Hell, I use Unix too, and some time, if I have a month or two to spare, I

might even install Linux on my PC :-)

---

Mark Hadfield

m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz <http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield/>  
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research  
PO Box 14-901, Wellington, New Zealand

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