
Subject: Intermittent plotting problem
Posted by [hawkins](#) on Thu, 04 Oct 2001 19:52:09 GMT
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Hello,

I have a plotting program running on a windows computer, and the problem is sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't (the exact same program with nothing changed). When it doesn't work, most of the plot is made fine, except that none of the lines from the "Plots" commands are drawn. The gist of the program is ...

```
window,1,xsize=782*3,ysize=1020*3,/pixmap
plot,x,y,psym=3
...
plots,[.04,.23],[.925,.925],color=255,/normal,thick=3.0,line style=0
plots,[.23,.23],[.925,.96],color=!d.n_colors-1,/normal,thick =3.0,linestyle=0
...
write_png,filename,not(tvrd())
wdelete,1
```

Rebooting sometimes solves the problem but not always.
Does anyone have the answer to this intermittent problem?

George Hawkins
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Subject: Re: Intermittent plotting problem
Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Thu, 04 Oct 2001 20:26:28 GMT
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George Hawkins wrote:

```
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```

Are you sure the "plots" lines are drawn, but are the same color as the background? I.e. a color problem. The reason I ask is a similar thing happened to me today when I used COLOR=255. I don't know enough about the WRITE_PNG routine to know if this is the issue or not (at least for the first PLOTS although the second might screw up also if the color table is weird).

\$0.02

paulv

--

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Subject: Re: Intermittent plotting problem
 Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 01:03:10 GMT
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George Hawkins (hawkins@aavso.org) writes:

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Color decomposition. :-)

I'm going to predict that when the program works color decomposition is turned OFF (Device, Decomposed=0), and when it doesn't work color decomposition is turned ON (Device, Decomposed=1). I'm going to further assert (I'm feeling really bold today) that you don't have any idea what the color decomposition state is when you execute these commands. :-)

I'll even offer a postulate. The program will work more often than it does now if you change !D.N_Colors to !D.Table_Size.

Rebooting will indeed sometimes solve the problem (although it seems a bit over the top to me), but knowing where you are when you draw graphics always works more reliably for me.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Intermittent plotting problem
Posted by [hawkins](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 21:44:15 GMT
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Paul and David,

thanks for your help. I tried device, decomposed=0 and color=!d.table_size-1 but the program still didn't work. I traced the problem to the particular computer involved. I tried the program on 3 other machines and it worked

consistently on each one. I don't know whether it was a hardware or (software?) memory problem, but it definitely didn't want to work on that one computer (unfortunately the first one I tried). Thanks again for your help.

George Hawkins
