
Subject: Re: itools error

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 09 Oct 2003 13:52:51 GMT

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krijger@astro.uu.nl writes:

- > Here at work, I am the only one interested into the new itools, yet
- > when running idl (linux) I get the following errors and the axis are
- > unreadable.
- > Did anyone have the same problem?

The *only* one!? Gosh, it's worse than I thought. :-(

I'd contact RSI. This looks like an installation problem to me. You might try setting your graphics renderer to "software".

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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Subject: Re: itools error

Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Thu, 09 Oct 2003 15:01:11 GMT

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<krijger@astro.uu.nl> wrote in message

news:3fb11ca9.0310090542.1f8ab30@posting.google.com...

- > Here at work, I am the only one interested into the new itools, yet
- > when running idl (linux) I get the following errors and the axis are
- > unreadable.
- > Did anyone have the same problem?
- >
- > IDL> iplot,findgen(100)
- > % Loaded DLM: PNG.
- > % Compiled module: XMANAGER.
- > % Loaded DLM: IPTOOL.
- > % Compiled module: GET_SCREEN_SIZE.
- > % Compiled module: REVERSE.
- > % Compiled module: CVTTOBM.
- > % Compiled module: IDENTITY.

```

> % Compiled module: STRSPLIT.
> % Compiled module: UNIQ.
> IDL> Failed to upload texture, sz 128
>
>           Memory heap (nil):
>
>           heap == 0
>           End
> of memory blocks
>   Failed to upload texture, sz 512
>
>           Memory heap (nil):
>
>           heap == 0
>           End
> of memory blocks
>

```

I checked, and I don't think that IDL or iTools is capable of generating these messages. My best guess is that these are some sort of debugging or error messages coming out of your linux OpenGL driver. David's advice is good; whenever you suspect a graphics driver problem, try using software rendering. I would also look really hard for an upgrade for your drivers. If the drivers are bad enough that you'd like to abandon hardware rendering completely for IDL on your system, find the `gl_driver.so` module in your IDL binary directory and move/rename it.

A couple of things changed in IDL 6.0 that may be of interest here. The Object Graphics `IDLgrText` object now renders text by using texture mapping, and that's why the innocent-looking `iPlot` command really does use textures, even though there isn't a texture-mapped object like a surface in sight. This will tend to exercise the texture mapping hardware and software in an OpenGL system more than it used to, and that's part of what might be exposing this problem in your driver. You might want to try some simpler tests like `"XOBJVIEW, OBJ_NEW('IDLgrAxis')"` or `"XOBJVIEW, OBJ_NEW('IDLgrText', 'Hello', RENDER_METHOD=0)"` and play with different values of `RENDER_METHOD` (0=texture, 1=triangles), just to try to learn more about the problem.

IDL 6.0 on linux also is now more likely to take advantage of hardware-accelerated OpenGL. Although the entire hardware GL on linux story has gotten much better in the past year, there are still some "bleeding-edge" drivers out there that are not quite mature yet. We've had good results here at RSI with a few configurations, such as nVidia and ATI drivers on RedHat 8 and 9 platforms. But in a lot of cases with newer drivers, you're not always guaranteed to get results as good as we have seen.

It might be helpful if you could post more details about your configuration, including graphics hardware, linux distro and version, XFree86 version, and OpenGL driver version. Perhaps someone else has already worked through this.

Karl

Subject: Re: itools error

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 09 Oct 2003 15:25:01 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> krijger@astro.uu.nl writes:

>

>

>> Here at work, I am the only one interested into the new itools, yet

>> when running idl (linux) I get the following errors and the axis are

>> unreadable.

>> Did anyone have the same problem?

>

>

> The *only* one!? Gosh, it's worse than I thought. :-(

>

That's one more than here.

The only new feature I was really interested in was the IDL Java bridge.

Unfortunately I just can't get it to work properly on Linux, and they've not even bothered to implement it on IRIX.

So, for now, IDL 6.0 lies unused...

--

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Subject: Re: itools error

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 09 Oct 2003 15:30:46 GMT

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Nigel Wade writes:

>> The *only* one!? Gosh, it's worse than I thought. :-(

>>

>

> That's one more than here.

The only one in Europe, is what I meant. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: itools error

Posted by [krijger](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2003 09:07:55 GMT

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> You might want to try some simpler tests like
> "XOBJVIEW, OBJ_NEW('IDLgrAxis')"

Same error.

> "XOBJVIEW,OBJ_NEW('IDLgrText', "Hello", RENDER_METHOD=0)"

Same error

> and play with different
> values of RENDER_METHOD (0=texture, 1=triangles), just to try to learn more
> about the problem.

> "XOBJVIEW,OBJ_NEW('IDLgrText', "Hello", RENDER_METHOD=1)"

works

> It might be helpful if you could post more details about your configuration,
> including graphics hardware, linux distro and version, XFree86 version, and
> OpenGL driver version. Perhaps someone else has already worked through
> this.

Matrox 450

Redhad 7.3

Xfree 4.2.1

OPenGL 1.3

Thijs
