
Subject: Re: VNC and IDL problems

Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2004 16:39:51 GMT

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<wmc@bas.ac.uk> wrote in message news:40166656@news.nwl.ac.uk...

> Hello group...

>

> I'm trying to use VNC to share my desktop.

VNC rocks.

> This causes IDL problems... initially

> I can't open a window at all. Then I run "demo", which manages to open a

> window, and then I can, but the colours are all screwed (and so are the

> colors, for those over the pond...).

>

> I can change colour table a bit, but I think I have a problem because

> help,/device says Visual Class: TrueColor (4) and I think I want

> psuedo colour.

>

> *Before* I use "demo" to get some kind of window, I find:

>

> wmc> set_plot,'x'

> wmc> help,/device

> Available Graphics Devices: CGM HP LJ NULL PCL PRINTER PS REGIS TEK X Z

> Current graphics device: X

> Warning: Cannot convert string

"-*-Menu-Medium-R-Normal--*-120-*-*P-*-ISO8859-1" to type FontStruct

> % Unsupported X Windows visual (class: StaticGray, depth: 0).

> Substituting default (class: <UndefinedVisual>, Depth: 0).

> % Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

>

> which isn't very helpful.

>

> Any advice appreciated.

>

> If its relevant, the IDL is running on Tru64, and the viewer on Tru64 or
linux,

> with identical results. And I want to be running it under XP at home.

I don't run VNC on Tru64, but I use it ALL the time back and forth between WinXP, linux, solaris, at work, and between work and home. I get really good results. I just love it. IDL works really well.

It sort of looks to me like your vnc server on Tru64 isn't working quite right. The fonts have a problem and the visual class and depth both seem to be zero, which is really bad. This suggests some some of X(vnc) server problem.

I get, when running vncserver on rh 7.1 with depth = 24, with a vnc viewer on WinXP:

```
IDL> set_plot, 'X'
IDL> help, /device
Available Graphics Devices: CGM HP LJ NULL PCL PRINTER PS REGIS TEK X Z
Current graphics device: X
  Server: X11.0, AT&T Laboratories Cambridge, Release 3332
  Display Depth, Size: 24 bits, (1280,1024)
  Visual Class: TrueColor (4)
  Bits Per RGB: 8 (8/8/8)
  Physical Color Map Entries (Emulated / Actual): 256 / 256
  Colormap: Private, 16777216 colors. Translation table: Enabled
  Graphics pixels: Decomposed, Dither Method: Ordered
  Write Mask: 16777215 (decimal) fffff (hex)
  Graphics Function: 3 (copy)
  Current Font: <default>, Current TrueType Font: <default>
  Default Backing Store: Req from Server.
```

The results you got suggest a really serious vnc server error. Is vnc officially supported on Tru64? Did you build the binaries yourself, or did you find precompiled libraries?

If you want to see if IDL is the problem here, try running 'xdpyinfo'. You should see something like:

```
kschultz@pod(50)% xdpyinfo
name of display:  :42.0
version number:  11.0
vendor string:   AT&T Laboratories Cambridge
vendor release number:  3332
maximum request size: 4194300 bytes
motion buffer size: 256
bitmap unit, bit order, padding: 32, LSBFirst, 32
image byte order:  LSBFirst
number of supported pixmap formats: 2
supported pixmap formats:
  depth 1, bits_per_pixel 1, scanline_pad 32
  depth 24, bits_per_pixel 32, scanline_pad 32
keycode range:   minimum 8, maximum 255
focus: window 0xc0000e, revert to PointerRoot
number of extensions: 7
  BIG-REQUESTS
  MIT-SHM
  MIT-SUNDRY-NONSTANDARD
  SHAPE
  SYNC
```

XC-MISC

XTEST

default screen number: 0

number of screens: 1

Karl

Subject: Re: VNC and IDL problems

Posted by [wmconnolley](#) on Tue, 27 Jan 2004 20:36:36 GMT

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Karl Schultz <kschultz_no_spam@rsinc.com> wrote:

> <wmc@bas.ac.uk> wrote in message news:40166656@news.nwl.ac.uk...

>> I'm trying to use VNC to share my desktop.

> VNC rocks.

Certainly does... thanks for your help. I discovered that moving up to IDL v6.0 (for some reason I was still on 5.4) and saying "device,decomposed=0" (thanks David) solved all my problems. Now I can plot pictures faster than I could at work! Though sadly the physical screen is smaller.

BTW, there is a nice page about tunnelling through firewalls with VNC/putty at: <http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~mathpre/vnc/putty/> which is nice for windows folk such as me at home.

-W.

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Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself
I'm a .signature virus! copy me into your .signature file & help me spread!
