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Subject: Re: "Variable undefined" error in LOADCT?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 17 Jul 2008 02:58:38 GMT  
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Ed Hyer writes:

> This one is interesting. Basically, I'm running a batch graphics  
> routine making a bunch of plots, and periodically LOADCT gets called,  
> in this form:  
>  
> LOADCT,39,/silent  
>  
> Now, lately this routine will run for a while (several plots) and then  
> break, with the error:  
>  
> % Variable is undefined: FILENAME.  
> % Error occurred at: LOADCT 180  
>  
> Here is the relevant code from loadct.pro:  
>  
> if (n\_elements(file) GT 0) then filename = file \$  
> else filename = filepath('colors1.tbl', subdir=['resource', 'colors'])  
> openr,lun, filename, /block  
>  
> Has anyone ever seen this error?

Wow. Are you sure you have the right LOADCT call?  
It is not being called in some other program, is it?  
Sometimes a variable like "file" or "filename" will  
change unexpectedly in a program. Especially in a  
long batch program.

Cheers,

David

--  
David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: "Variable undefined" error in LOADCT?  
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 17 Jul 2008 13:26:40 GMT  
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On Jul 16, 7:20 pm, Ed Hyer <[ejh...@gmail.com](mailto:ejh...@gmail.com)> wrote:

> Hi IDL Wizards,  
>  
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> Has anyone ever seen this error?

So what do you get from filepath()?

```
IDL> print, filepath('colors1.tbl', subdir=['resource', 'colors'])  
% Compiled module: FILEPATH.  
% Compiled module: PATH_SEP.  
C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL70\resource\colors\colors1.tbl
```

Installation problem?

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Subject: Re: "Variable undefined" error in LOADCT?  
Posted by [MariIncandenza](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 00:47:00 GMT  
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OK. SHORT ANSWER: Ran out of LUNs. Somewhere one of my routines isn't cleaning up after itself.

LONG ANSWER: The LOADCT routine uses error redirection to spew a generic error message on IO errors. Here is the code for this redirection:

```
on_ioerror, bad  
<...>  
bad:  
  message, /CONTINUE, 'Error reading file: ' + filename + ', ' + !  
error_state.msg
```

Now, LOADCT wants to read a file with the color table, and that error is intended to tell you if the color table you want is missing. But before the FILENAME is even set by LOAD\_CT, it runs GET\_LUN to assign an LUN to read the file. When that command fails, it goes to 'bad' and then it croaks because FILENAME isn't defined.

--Edward H.

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