
Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 01 Aug 2008 17:06:54 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> Despite the fact that every Monday morning I write a note to
> ITTVIS support alerting them to the fact that WSHOW doesn't
> work in the IDL Workbench, the problem persists. Does anyone
> have any insight at all into why this is such an intractable
> problem to solve?

A correspondent this morning, who just installed IDL 7
for the first time yesterday, called ITTVIS technical
support to inquire about this. He told me they claimed
they "had never heard of the problem before".

I guess that explains a lot of things. :-(

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.")

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [Robert Moss, PhD](#) on Sat, 02 Aug 2008 02:17:15 GMT

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On Aug 1, 1:06 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:
>> Despite the fact that every Monday morning I write a note to
>> ITTVIS support alerting them to the fact that WSHOW doesn't
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> Cheers,
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> David
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That's odd. I just ran a quick test and it seems to work fine for me.
Does WSHOW not bring ANY window forward for you, or is it something more subtle?

Robert Moss

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Sat, 02 Aug 2008 02:41:18 GMT
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On Aug 1, 9:17 pm, Robert Moss <robert.m...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Aug 1, 1:06 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>
>
>
>> David Fanning writes:
>>> Despite the fact that every Monday morning I write a note to
>>> ITTVIS support alerting them to the fact that WSHOW doesn't
>>> work in the IDL Workbench, the problem persists. Does anyone
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> That's odd. I just ran a quick test and it seems to work fine for me.
> Does WSHOW not bring ANY window forward for you, or is it something
> more subtle?
>
> Robert Moss

Doesn't work for me - WinXP on my laptop. wshow, 0 and the window is still behind the IDE. What OS are you using Robert?

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 02 Aug 2008 03:08:05 GMT
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Robert Moss writes:

> That's odd. I just ran a quick test and it seems to work fine for me.
> Does WSHOW not bring ANY window forward for you, or is it something
> more subtle?

WSHOW acts pretty much exactly like my teenage son.
Do I need to say it any plainer? Nothing. Nada. No can do.
Terribly, terribly annoying. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [devin.white](#) on Sat, 02 Aug 2008 13:39:46 GMT
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On Aug 1, 11:08 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Robert Moss writes:
>> That's odd. I just ran a quick test and it seems to work fine for me.
>> Does WSHOW not bring ANY window forward for you, or is it something
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I'm using 7.0.2 on Windows XP and this worked:

```
IDL> window, 0  
IDL> plot, findgen(25)  
IDL> wshow, 0
```

The plot window popped up, as expected. What version of the workbench are you using?

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Sat, 02 Aug 2008 16:01:14 GMT

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On Aug 2, 8:39 am, "devin.wh...@gmail.com" <devin.wh...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Aug 1, 11:08 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Robert Moss writes:

>>> That's odd. I just ran a quick test and it seems to work fine for me.

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> The plot window popped up, as expected. What version of the workbench
> are you using?

I'm using 7.0.3 - let's be sure about what is meant by "popped up".
Did it actually move the plot window to the front of the window
stack? I get nothing...

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [devin.white](#) on Sun, 03 Aug 2008 13:01:07 GMT
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On Aug 2, 12:01 pm, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:
> On Aug 2, 8:39 am, "devin.wh...@gmail.com" <devin.wh...@gmail.com>
> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>
>> On Aug 1, 11:08 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
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>>> Robert Moss writes:
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> I'm using 7.0.3 - let's be sure about what is meant by "popped up".
> Did it actually move the plot window to the front of the window
> stack? I get nothing...- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

Yes. I closed all open applications, launched the DE, created the window, launched several other applications (Word, Internet Explorer, Acrobat, and ArcGIS), went back to the DE, entered the PLOT command (window still in the background at this point), then typed WSHOW, 0. The plot window was brought to the front of the stack, with the DE sitting right behind it.

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 03 Aug 2008 18:57:07 GMT
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devin.white@gmail.com writes:

> I'm using 7.0.2 on Windows XP and this worked:
> IDL> window, 0
> IDL> plot, findgen(25)
> IDL> wshow, 0
>
> The plot window popped up, as expected. What version of the workbench
> are you using?

I'm not sure what you've been smoking, but AFAIK, there is no IDL 7.0.2 in the world, and I know for a fact that WSHOW doesn't do squat on a Windows XP system, in *any* version of IDL 7. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [devin.white](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2008 10:32:49 GMT

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On Aug 3, 2:57 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> devin.wh...@gmail.com writes:

>> I'm using 7.0.2 on Windows XP and this worked:

>> IDL> window, 0

>> IDL> plot, findgen(25)

>> IDL> wshow, 0

>

>> The plot window popped up, as expected. What version of the workbench

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The console prints this:

IDL Version 7.0.1, Microsoft Windows (Win32 x86 m32). (c) 2008, ITT
Visual Information Solutions

However, Help->About IDL Workbench says this:

Version: 7.0.2 Build id: 20080320

(c) Copyright 2007 ITT Visual Information Solutions. All rights
reserved.

7.0.2 is the version of the workbench that ships with ENVI 4.5. I've
tried WSHOW on three different WinXP computers where 4.5/7.0.2 is
installed and it works as expected. I recently spoke with the
correspondent you mentioned in your second post and it worked for him,
too. It wasn't exactly the functionality he was looking for, but it
did work.

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

devin.white@gmail.com writes:

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> correspondent you mentioned in your second post and it worked for him,
> too. It wasn't exactly the functionality he was looking for, but it
> did work.

Well, this is a mystery, for sure. I have IDL 7 installed on three separate computers, two Windows XP and one LINUX, and WSHOW works identically on all of them. Plus, I've taught IDL classes using IDL 7 on everything from Windows Vista to Macs to other flavors of UNIX and I have never seen it work there, either.

But, in 30+ years of working with computers, I've been conditioned to believe anything. And if the damn thing works *somewhere*, at least there is hope. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2008 12:16:40 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> But, in 30+ years of working with computers, I've been
> conditioned to believe anything

Did I say 30+ years!? Sorry. I've been backpacking this weekend. It just *feels* like 30+ years this morning. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2008 15:43:26 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

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>>

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Ah, ha. I just checked WSHOW with the latest IDL/ENVI version of IDL that I have on one of my Windows computers. There, in fact, WSHOW brings the IDL graphics window forward, although the keyboard focus switches to the graphics window, rather than remaining in the IDL command window. That sort of robs the whole adventure of the excitement, but at least it does *something*.

Now, what the hell is the difference between IDL 7.0.1 and IDL/ENVI 7.0.1? And why has ITTVIS remained so silent on this issue?

Cheers,

David

P.S. I am *so* glad experience has taught me not to call everyone who disagrees with me a liar. It saves a great deal of crow eating. :-)

--

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2008 22:38:44 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

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> version of IDL that I have on one of my Windows computers.
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This is really weird. Just another development you should

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I'm on a Windows machine that just has IDL installed. I have the IDL workbench running on the right-hand monitor, and it displays windows on the left-hand monitor. The graphics window is behind my e-mail and help windows on the left-hand monitor. I type "WSHOW" in the IDL command window, and the window jumps forward. Whoa!!

I bring my e-mail window forward and try it again. Nothing.

Huh!? I haven't been able to get this to work since. Has anyone heard the rumors about life on Mars? I think they are here. :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say it's not paranoia if people really are out to get you.

--

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2008 22:52:08 GMT

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On Aug 4, 5:38 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>> Ah, ha. I just checked WSHOW with the latest IDL/ENVI
>> version of IDL that I have on one of my Windows computers.
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Obviously, you have to try the workbench on your left monitor and the graphics window on the right monitor...

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2008 23:08:46 GMT
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Vince Hradil writes:

> Obviously, you have to try the workbench on your left monitor and the
> graphics window on the right monitor...

I've discovered that the moon has to be in the House of Aquarius,
and it has to be the first Monday of the month in an even
numbered year. Even then, you have to hold your tongue just
right to get it to work.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists
Posted by [Allan Whiteford](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 12:55:26 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

>

>

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> Cheers,

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> David

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> P.S. Let's just say it's not paranoia if people really are
> out to get you.

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David,

Is it perhaps because you've got the window focus following the mouse position rather than having to click on a window to make it active? This is the sort of thing which might mess something like this up if you're using some option which isn't how windows comes out of the box.

Thanks,

Allan

Subject: Re: WSHOW Problem Persists

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2008 13:20:26 GMT

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Allan Whiteford writes:

> Is it perhaps because you've got the window focus following the mouse
> position rather than having to click on a window to make it active? This
> is the sort of thing which might mess something like this up if you're
> using some option which isn't how windows comes out of the box.

No, it is because the IDL process has been separated from the Workbench process, and in doing so, this piece of (essential, in my opinion) functionality has gone missing.

I now have it on reliable authority that ITTVIS knows about the problem (thank goodness!) and is working on a solution. Apparently some complicated bridge work between the two processes is required.

Eventually, I am assured, this grand experiment will result in an IDL that is better than the old one. I sure hope so. My wife tells me my cursing has increased exponentially since I started working with the Workbench. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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