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Subject: Re: NG Transparency Bug  
Posted by [ronn](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2010 17:26:29 GMT  
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Hi David,

This is a drawing order issue, but I'm not sure it classifies as a bug. The trick is to get the order right. In your example if you add one line to make one of the axes go to the back it should work. At least it does on my XP machine.

```
(p.axes)[1].order, /send_to_back
```

The same command on the (p.axes)[2] also does the trick but not the [0] element. Probably because that one is already at the back. Its kind of hard to tell since I couldn't figure out a way to pull out the drawing order from the plot3d object.

Ronn Kling

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Subject: Re: NG Transparency Bug  
Posted by [David Grier](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2010 23:30:38 GMT  
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Thanks Ronn,

Fiddling with the drawing order seems to make the axes visible. I no longer consider this a bug. Instead, I consider it to be \_two\_ bugs.

Here's why:

(1) A transparent object should not make another object invisible regardless of their relative drawing order. In a 3D scene, visibility should be determined primarily by distance from the viewing plane.

(2) I said "fiddling with" rather than "changing" because setting

```
(p.axes)[1].order, /send_to_back
```

makes both the y and z axes visible, but subsequently setting

```
(p.axes)[2].order, /send_to_back
```

makes them both invisible again! There's some weird interaction that, though possibly explicable, seems more bug-like than desirable to me.

Once again, thanks very much for giving me a solution I can use.

TTFN,

David

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