
Subject: SOLUTION: Displaying plots on X-terminals: backing pixmap doesn't get set?

Posted by [kashyap](#) on Tue, 13 Apr 1993 19:31:58 GMT

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In article <1993Apr13.163701.21016@midway.uchicago.edu> kashyap@oddjob.uchicago.edu (Vinay Kashyap) writes:

> Hi,

>

> I use a Visual TX100M X-terminal (currently with 2-Meg memory) sometimes to

> display IDL plots, and for some reason, the backing pixmap does not get set.

> So whenever I cover/uncover the plot window, the covered part comes out

> blank. It gets rather annoying when one is trying to build up a complicated

> plot. I would appreciate any suggestions/hints to avoid this problem.

>

> I have the same problem with ghostview, but that I can live with.

>

> terminal windows, clocks, xload, etc., do NOT exhibit this problem. i.e.,

> when I cover an xterm window with another and uncover it, I can still see all

> the stuff that was covered.

The solution is quite simple, as it turns out (Thanks to Jim Pendleton and Eric Deutsch):

Most workstations take care of "backing store", but X Terminals do not.
use:

IDL> device,retain=2

as soon as you enter IDL (before opening ANY graphics windows) to
tell IDL to supply the backing store itself...

or

IDL> window,retain=2

When you create your windows

Vinay
