

Subject: Solution to CURSOR problem
Posted by [AMAZUK](#) on Fri, 06 Aug 1993 21:22:15 GMT
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On 2 Aug 1993 18:27:09, I posed this question:

> I am running IDL Version 3.0.0 using VAX/VMS 5.5. I am trying to make
> multiple calls to CURSOR to read in data coordinates. It seems to work
> the first time that I call CURSOR, but each call after that gives erroneous
> results. Has any else had this problem? Is there some procedure that I
> need to use between CURSOR calls?

I should reiterate that I am using a tektronics emulator on a Graph-On terminal and do not have a mouse.

Many people provided me insight on the "true solution" which is in the DEVICE procedure. Appendix E. IDL Graphics Devices (in the version 2 manual this is section E.9.1 The DEVICE Procedure For Tektronics Devices pg E-40) gives a good explanation of what is going on. The GIN_CHARS keyword is the "key" and here is the manual's explanation:

(quote)

GIN_CHARS - The number of characters IDL is to read when accepting a GIN (Graphics Input) report. The default is 5. If your terminal is strapped to send a carriage return at the end of each GIN report, set this parameter to 6. If the number of GIN characters is too large, the IDL CURSOR procedure will not respond until two more keys are struck. If it is too small, the extra characters sent by the terminal will appear as input to the next IDL prompt.

(end quote)

So, to correct the problem I was having, I needed to add this to my code:

```
set_plot,'tek'  
device,qin_chars=6
```

* RSI, if you are reading this, perhaps you should also put this information in the CURSOR section since I never would have looked under DEVICE!

Ann

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* same ole disclaimer: these views are mine - not my employer's or NASA's
