Hello,

Thanks to all who sent me ideas about the CURSOR procedure in IDL version
3.0.0 on VAX/VMS 5.5! I was having difficulties using repeated calls
to CURSOR in that it would work correctly the first time, but each call
after that would give erroneous results. I was basically trying to do:

```
 for i = 0,4 do begin
  cursor,x1,y1
  xdata(i) = x1
  ydata(i) = y1
 endfor
```

The defaults for CURSOR procedure are /data and /wait in the version of IDL
that I am using. I had forgetten to mention before that I don't use a
mouse and that I select my x and y cursor positions by pressing <cr>.   The
solution that I have found was given by Jim Pendelton and here is what he
said:

> Hi,
> Here's a guess based on years of screwing around with IDL cursor
> and keyboard input, and not on any great insight...It looks like your mouse
> is sending out more characters than are expected by IDL, for instance a
> three-character line control sequence (aka the GIN terminator) instead of a
> one-character. IDL takes as many as it wants, then gags on the rest, leaving
> some in the input stream for any subsequent calls to CURSOR.
>
> If you can't modify the GIN terminator with your terminal setup, I
> believe there's a way to do it with the DEVICE command.
>
> As a last resort, try a sequence such as
>
> cursor,x1,y1
> !err = 0 ; clears cursor input character storage
> dum=get_kbrd(0) ; clears keyboard input storage
> xdata(4) = x1
> ydata(4) = y1
>
> This MAY clear out the input buffer for you. It's worked for me in
> the past.
>
> Good luck!
>
> Jim Pendleton, Programmer Analyst/Technical Services Specialist

> GRO/OSSE, Dept. Physics & Astronomy
> Northwestern University
> j-pendleton@nwu.edu (708) 491-2748   (708) 491-3135 [FAX]

Ann

 ^^^ ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
Ann Mazuk   Internet: amazuk@dirac2.span.nasa.gov
The Aerospace Corporation   SPAN: DIRAC2::AMAZUK
El Segundo, California
 * same ole disclaimer: these views are mine - not my employer's or NASA's
 -- ----------------

Subject: Re: CURSOR procedure
Posted by at913 on Fri, 06 Aug 1993 11:43:26 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

In a previous article, AMAZUK@dirac2.span.nasa.gov (Ann Mazuk) says:

> Hello,
>
> 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 had the same problem. I contacted IDL (some chap by name of Allan) and
he could not reproduce it on their hardware so we concluded that it must have
been the interplay (or lack of it) of my GO230 terminal(TEK emulation),
VAX/VMS, etc and I dropped the matter. It wasn't that important to me then.

--
Mirko Vukovic
University of Wisconsin -- Madison
VUKOVIC@UWMFE.NEEP.WISC.EDU