Subject: Re: oplot - error in plotting to Z buffer only Posted by davidf on Fri, 05 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Gwyn Fireman (fireman@mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov) writes:

- > I have a routine to automatically generate a bunch o'gifs.
- > Usually it works fine.
- > On one set of data it fails with the error:

>

> % OPLOT: No valid points, must have at least 2 distinct points

>

- > But, but I *do* have points to plot!
- > If I run this interactively I can re-enter the command after it gives
- > the error, and it works fine. (But .con does not)

>

- > AND if I plot to an X-window instead of to the Z-buffer (as I usually
- > do when generating gifs) it runs fine.

Odd. I have a theory about IDL and blue moons, but it needs further testing before I publish it. :-)

Cheers.

David

P.S. Is this reproducible? I mean, does the same thing happen around the 15th of the month?

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: oplot - error in plotting to Z buffer only Posted by J.D. Smith on Sat, 06 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Gwyn Fireman wrote:

>

> Well, I'm stumped.

>

- > I have a routine to automatically generate a bunch o'gifs.
- > Usually it works fine.

>

```
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 AND if I plot to an X-window instead of to the Z-buffer (as I usually
  do when generating gifs) it runs fine.
>
 Has anyone seen a similar discrepancy?
  Is there something I need to know about the Z buffer?
>
  Thanks.
 ---- Gwyn F. Fireman
 ---- General Sciences Corporation
  ---- MODIS Characterization Support Team
> ---- Gwyn.Fireman@gsfc.nasa.gov 301-352-2118
```

Not to denigrate David's Blue Moon theory, but I'll bet a nickel that the data frame for which the routine fails is corrupt or somehow not correctly read in. I've been down the road of blaming the Z-Buffer for all my problems, only later to discover some more plausible error. Are you *certain* all you changed was set_plot,'Z' to set_plot,'X'?

JD

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Subject: Re: oplot - error in plotting to Z buffer only Posted by Dick Jackson on Mon, 08 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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Gwyn Fireman wrote:
```

> Well, I'm stumped.

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- > do when generating gifs) it runs fine.

>

- > Has anyone seen a similar discrepancy?
- > Is there something I need to know about the Z buffer?

This may be the same bug I've run into. In some cases, when plotting:

- with my own UserSym plot symbol (say a 20-point circle)
- to the Z-Buffer device
- right at the bottom or top edge of the plot where the UserSym might meet or go over the edge (sorry, I don't remember exactly)

this very error would occur. When I fixed the YRange and plotted a set of points that started off the bottom and crept onto the plot, I could tell when it failed. I found a workaround, so I didn't get to the bottom of this.

Hope this helps!

Cheers,

--

-Dick

Dick Jackson Fanning Software Consulting, Canadian Office djackson@dfanning.com Calgary, Alberta Voice/Fax: (403) 242-7398 Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Subject: Re: oplot - error in plotting to Z buffer only Posted by wmc on Mon, 08 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Gwyn Fireman efireman@mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov> wrote:

- > On one set of data it fails with the error:
- > % OPLOT: No valid points, must have at least 2 distinct points
- > But, but I *do* have points to plot!

I think I've seen this before, but can't remember the exact circumstances. I seem to recall that the exact size of the window mattered - do you get the

same failures if the Z-buffer and interactive window are exactly the same size?

-William

--

William M Connolley | wmc@bas.ac.uk | http://www.nbs.ac.uk/public/icd/wmc/Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself