I am running the X11R5 version of tvtwm (patch level 7) under Xsun
server. The problem is that I can not run any widget applications of
IDL (Interactive Data language, Version 3.0.0). Whenever I move the
cursor into an IDL widget window, the window manager tvtwm dies and I
am logged out.

Could this be due to a similar problem that twm of X11R4 was known to
have and got fixed in X11R5 version of twm? The following analysis of
the twm (X11R4) problem is enclosed just in case it might shed some
light on the problem with tvtwm of X11R5. I'd appreciate it if anyone
can provide a fix or a way to get around the problem.

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The problem turns out to be a bug in the R4 twm.

In version 2.3.0, IDL started installing the WM_COLORMAP_WINDOWS property
on the top level shell of widget trees that contain draw widgets. This tells
the window manager to install the proper colormap for those draw
widgets when they get the pointer focus. This is only important when
the draw widget is not using the default shared colormap. It had become
more of a problem recently with the increasing number of workstations
with 24-bit frame buffers.

The presence of the WM_COLORMAP_WINDOWS property causes
twm to crash. Steve Swales of the University of Rochester
Laboratory for Laser Energetics has already seen this problem and
has patched the R4 twm to solve it. The patch is available for
anonymous ftp from boulder.colorado.edu (128.138.240.1). It is
in pub/idl/fixed_r4_twm.tar.Z.

Thanks to Greg Hennessy (University of Virginia) for discovering
the problem and tracking down the solution. Thanks to Steve Swales
for sharing his fix with the rest of us.
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Xuyong Liu   liu@stsci.edu

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Xuyong Liu   liu@stsci.edu