

Re: just on Linux: grey rectangles instead of JFrame

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.gui/2004-10/0443.html>

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Tarlika Elisabeth Schmitz wrote:

> Hello,
> I have an absolutely desperate Problem, which appears on the Linux
> target machines only, NOT on my Windows 2000 test environment.
>
> I am simply looking for hints to track down the problem or for someone
> who has seen a similar phenomenon.
>
> System:
> - Debian Linux
> - BlackDown 1.4.2, or Sun 1.4.2_03
> - PC 512MB, 2.8 GHz, nothing else running
> - Gnome 2.6
> - Windowmanager: Sawfish or Metacity
>
> Application: single-threaded Swing application using JFrames. Some are
> just hidden upon close, others are newly created each time.
>
> Test: just open, close, open, close windows
>
> Problem: 20-30% of the time a JFrame is not painted properly
> a) just a grey rectangle
> b) Window decorations drawn, but content just grey
> c) content drawn but no Window Decorations
> In all cases the rectangle is the size of what the JFrame would've been
> Placing other windows on top and pulling them away does not cause a
> repaint. Once the rectangle even appeared on all 4 desktops!!!! I also
> noticed that sometimes the rectangle doesn't appear in the taskbar.
> The only thing that helps is exit and start again.
> I can't see a common denominator so far. It seems to happen to arbitrary
> windows.
>
> This does not appear to be caused by uncaught exceptions.

But it appears that you have not looked for error messages, so you really

don't know if this is the cause. See below.

- > *The phenomenon*
- > *appears without any errors being logged nor anything on the console*
- > *(neither stack trace nor out of mem).*

By "console" do you mean by launching your applications from a shell and monitoring for errors? This is a reliable way to see errors.

- >
- > *I first tried Blackdown 1.4.2. It doesn't take long to hit the problem.*
- > *De-installed Blackdown, installed Sun 1.4.2. Took much longer for the*
- > *problem to appear. I would like to emphasize again, that I have never*
- > *seen this on my Win2K machine with Sun SDK 1.4.2_01.*

You need to launch your applications from a shell and watch for error messages. When you see them, copy them into a message here.

If you launch from a shell and you really don't see any error messages, that is also useful to know.

Also make sure which JVM you are using. In the same shell from which you launch the applications, type:

```
$ java -version
```

Tell us what is printed.

Finally, are these applications written by you, and do you have access to the source? If so, look for try ... catch clauses in which the exceptions are discarded.

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