

Current IBASIC Buglist <last update 30 APR 95>

* This document outlines current IBASIC bugs and usage problems.

[%%]

[1.0] CRITICAL OVERALL PROBLEMS

* The following problems lead to software crashes -- either memory overflows or application errors (AEs):

% If you perform a LOADSUB in IBASIC for the ITG library, DELSUB them all, then LOADSUB them again, you'll get a MEMORY OVERFLOW error. This is because IBASIC has a table of CSUB entries and won't reallocate them when you DELSUB the entries. You reload IBASIC it works again.

This means that if you do a GET & RUN from ITG2, it will blow up in your face after one or two runs. This can be worked around with some simple coding but it is a nuisance.

% There is a bizarre sequence of PRINT statements that will lead to a crash.

% Setting the widget STACKING ORDER attribute to 1 causes an AE. There is no reason to do this but it shouldn't cause a crash.

% Chaining programs with the LOAD statement can crash IBASIC under certain circumstances.

% IBASIC crashes while reading big files with SWAP ON.

% IBASIC gives memory overflow while reading big files with IMAGE. We have a report that shows how to duplicate this problem.

% Excessive numbers of CONTROL statements cause IBASIC to crash and corrupt memory.

% There have been problems with widget keyboard traversal -- Alt-Tab won't work right, for example. Keyboard traversal is basically broke.

[%%]

[2.0] EDITOR & USER INTERFACE BUGS

* The editor (& UI) suffers from many problems:

% IBASIC has major problems loading subprograms and editing files when the files are over 3000 lines long.

This is one of the most serious problems with the product; basically the product cannot edit programs longer than 3000 lines. This can be seen when you perform moves or copies of program lines in programs of that size; the move or copy may fail, leaving corrupted lines.

Another closely related problem is that if you load a SUBprogram from a file, it will always be renumbered by 10, leading to various listing corruptions if the total is longer than 3000 lines. RMB will renumber by a lower number under such circumstances.

- % If you insert a line of text into the IBASIC editor, type in the line, and press ENTER, then if there is an error in the line you get a dialog telling you about it. Clear the dialog and the lines below the offending line are "doubled".
- % We have many reports of a problem where the cursor in the editor doesn't match the characters being modified; we have multiple reports of this problem from various customers.
- % If you perform a DELSUB, the FILE SAVE line will forget the file name. This also will cause the editor to jump back to the first line of the program.
- % If you do a DISP followed by an INPUT, the INPUT wipes out the DISP text.
- % IBASIC cannot print lines longer than (roughly) 100 characters through the "Print" entry on the "File" menu.
- % PRINT TABXY will not print below line 22.
- % If CRT set to 1024x768 resolution, the fonts in the control pad are too big for the control pad.
- % When you perform a FIND, the dialog that announces that the string is found comes up on top of the string.
- % The RECALL buffer (which stores inputs into the ALPHA Window to a stack) will not allow CONTROL statements to be recovered with "alt-up-arrow".

[%%]

[3.0] WIDGET FIXES

* There are a number of widget bugs:

- % IBW is limited to only 29 STRING widgets; other widgets have similar limits.
- % STRING DIALOG can't use ENTER key.
- % If you poll the SLIDER widget at a high rate, once you leave the program the mouse cursor is stuck where the SLIDER used to be; you have to reboot Windows to get it to work.
- % METER widget won't accept negative string values.
- % USER SCROLL won't work on STRIPCHART widget.
- % Setting MAXIMIZABLE to 0 will not redraw its PANEL. This will cause the MAXIMIZE button to be retained until something else redraws the PANEL.

[%%]

[4.0] ONLINE HELP

* The online help utility has two categories of problems:

% Font handling problems.

% Content problems:

- The discussion for the EXECUTE command is incorrect.
- The automatic interface detection program is buggy.
- The DDE example programs ... one has errors and one is the wrong program.

[%%]

[5.0] SERIAL

* The RS-232 implementation under IBASIC has a number of deficiencies:

% If XON/XOFF is set in Windows Control Panel / Ports, then you can't access the serial port -- you get an "interface not found" error; almost *every* customer who uses serial runs into this problem. (You'll also get this error if something else -- a mouse, a printer, or an applications program -- is using the serial port.)

% CTS and DSR have to be held high for serial outputs to work, even when No Handshake is set; they should be don't-cares.

% If you do an ENTER, you must have done at least one OUTPUT first, or the ENTER won't work.

% The serial RESET (CONTROL Serial,0;1) doesn't seem to do anything. The character format register (CONTROL Serial,4;Bits) seems to work rather unreliably as well.

% If you fill up the serial input buffer the serial port locks up.

[%%]

[6.0] GRAPHICS

* There are a number of middling-to-small bugs in graphics:

% If you create a VIEWPORT within a graphics window and then try to PRINT, the area within the graphics VIEWPORT will be printed neatly, but the rest of the graphics window print will be littered with trash and garbage. We have workaround programs available.

% Using PLOT with an array of sufficient size causes a MEMORY OVERFLOW error.

% Certain GESCAPES bring up the graphics window when there is no particular reason that it should pop up.



% LINE TYPES 3 through 8 can't be set to different PEN colors on certain types of displays.

[%%]

[7.0] OTHER BUGS & REQUESTS

% The DATE\$ string is off by one day as of 1 JAN 93.

% IF-THEN ALLOCATE gives syntax error.

% SYSTEM\$("VERSION:COMPATIBILITY:INSTR" is invalid. This may be a documentation error.

% TOCLIPBOARD CSUB will not properly send numbers smaller than 0.1 to the Clipboard. We have a patched CSUB.

% National GPIB problems -- if you set the timeout in WIBCONF to 300 seconds, it causes an AE; if you set it to "none", you get an immediate timeout.

% IBASIC can't find COM4 unless GPIB.DLL is present.

% IBW using a National card can't handle secondary addresses higher than 10. No workaround possible.

% Dialog timeouts act unpredictably if over 60 seconds. I have written an example program that synthesizes a dialog from widgets and will work with extended timeouts.

[<>]