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## Error: Segmentation Violation

Article Number 15322

Software **ArcView GIS 3.0, 3.0a, 3.0b, 3.1, 3.2**

Platforms N/A

Last Modified 12/23/2002

## Error Message

Segmentation Violations occur under various circumstances and can be caused by various factors.


## Cause

According to ArcView online Help:

"Segmentation Violations are caused by attempts in the low-level ArcView code to access a memo

Because similar memory mistransactions may occur under different circumstances, the initial caus

## Solution

 The solutions offered in this article refer to resolving segmentation violations after they occur. However, the most effective strategy against these errors is prevention. See the Related Information section.

- o You start ArcView with a blank project.

1. System resources may be running low. Close all applications and reboot the computer. If


## Summary

Tips for running ArcView more effectively on Windows mach

## Procedure

- o Ensure your system's virtual memory setting is adequ  
[Change your system's Virtual Memory settings](#)


The amount of virtual memory needed depends on th  
large. Try increasing the Virtual Memory setting to 20

 If you configure Windows 98/95 to let Windows m  
memory, your system will always have enough virtua  
there is enough free space on the C:\ drive.

- o Make sure your system's disk drives have ample free  
[Check the amount of free space on a disk drive](#)

The amount of free space is important if the drive sto  
[Get a list of environment variables](#)

If a disk is low on free space, use Windows Explorer t

 Extremely large TEMP and/or HOME directories (10 cause problems when editing data files such as theme HOME or TEMP directories and/or inadequate disk spa during the editing process, or can cause your data to

2. Bad customizations in your default.apr file. The default.apr for the logged-in user resides directory to default.old to keep ArcView from using it. [-show me-](#)

### Summary

ArcView uses your system's HOME environment variable as

An environment variable points to some kind of value. In th

HOME = C:\temp

ArcView searches the TEMP, CWD, and AVHOME environme

### Procedure

Use one of the methods below to create or change the HOM


- o Set the HOME environment variable through the oper  
[Edit an environment variable](#)
- o Set the HOME Environment variable through ArcView'

1. Start WordPad (click Start > Accessories > WordPa
2. Click Open.
3. Navigate to the location of the ESRI/AV\_GIS30/Arc
4. Set File of type to All Documents.
5. Select the Startup file (the one without an extensio
6. Scroll to the bottom of the file and place click at th
7. Press Enter a couple of times.
8. Copy this text:

```
'-----
' Set System Environment Variable
'-----
System.SetEnvVar( "HOME", "c:\GIS_Wo:
```

9. Change the second variable to the path you design
10. Click the Save button. If prompted for a file type,

 Never define your HOME directory within the ESRI you ever need to re-install ArcView, the HOME directc and with it your work.

 You can check your system's environment variables by typing SET at Command Prompt window.

- o You open an existing project.

1. System resources may be running low. [-show me-](#)


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  2. Click Open.
  3. Navigate to the location of the ESRI/AV\_GIS30/ArcView
  4. Set File of type to All Documents.
  5. Select the Startup file (the one without an extension)
  6. Scroll to the bottom of the file and place click at the end
  7. Press Enter a couple of times.
  8. Copy this text:

```
'-----
' Set System Environment Variable
'-----
System.SetEnvVar( "HOME", "c:\GIS_Working\GIS30\ArcView\Startup"
```

9. Change the second variable to the path you design
10. Click the Save button. If prompted for a file type,


 **Never define your HOME directory within the ESRI/AV\_GIS30/ArcView directory. You ever need to re-install ArcView, the HOME directory will be lost and with it your work.**

3. Corrupt .apr file, check its structure [-show me-](#)

**Summary**

An .apr file is an Object Database stored in ASCII text form

**Procedure**

 **Make a copy of your .apr file under a different name. You may need to revert to this backup copy in the event your edits corrupt the file in any way.**

1. Check the structure of the object.

Each object is bound by a set of parenthesis. The first line contains the object name. The lines in between contain the object's properties.

```
( IDType.UniqueIndexNumber
  ElementType: Value
)
```

This is a File Name object similar to an object that might be used to store a file name.

```
( FN.234
  Path: "c:/windows/temp"
```


)

## 2. Edit objects.

To remove elements in an object, just remark them o

```
( FN.234
REM Path: "c:/windows/temp"
)
```

Lines beginning with REM in an APR are ignored when

 **Never comment out (insert REM) or delete objects other objects in the database may reference them and segmentation violation.**

## 4. Bad data in:

Shapefiles [-show me-](#)


### Summary

A project file may get corrupted by system crashes, or by other situations are varied and are beyond the scope of this document.

### Procedure

Given that the extent of the damage to the project file is unknown

- o Before attempting the recovery process:

 **Make a copy of the damaged .apr file under a different name. A backup copy may be needed to revert to if some of the steps do not work.**

Keep in mind that an .apr file is a type of ODB file (or

- o Basic recovery:  
Import damaged project into a new project  
[Import damaged project into a new project](#)
- o Data oriented project repair:  
If the basic recovery process does not work, it may be necessary to use the data oriented repair process.  
[How to determine if project file has corrupt data or work](#)
- o Document oriented project repair:  
If after removing all the data sets from the project it is necessary to use the document oriented repair process of elimination.  
[How to determine if you have a bad reference in your](#)
- o Miscellaneous recommendations:

You can keep the .apr file open in the text editor while you perform the following sequences:

Ctrl+Z will Undo your last edit

Ctrl+F is the shortcut to Find (except  
Ctrl+H is the shortcut to Find and Replace  
Esc will dismiss a window

After recovering your project, whether completely or  
the eventuality the main file becomes corrupt again.

- o [Segmentation Violation](#)

Segmentation Violations occur under various circumstances

Images [-show me-](#)

### Error Message

When opening a project, ArcView returns the error:

"Segmentation Violation"

The CADRG and/or the CIB extensions are turned on and segmentation violations occur.

### Cause

The CADRG and CIB extensions cause a segmentation violation.

### Solution

You need to remove the offending extensions from the project.

1. Open the Project in WordPad

 **Make a copy of the damaged .apr file under a different name. A backup copy may be needed to revert to if some of the extensions are removed.**

2. Use the Find option to search for the text "CADRG". You will find the following dependencies:


Dependencies:

```
"$AVEXT/adrg.avx\n$AVEXT/cadrg.
\n$AVEXT/arcpress.avx\n$AVEXT/spatial.
```

and one in a path object.

```
(FN.9060
    Path: "$AVEXT/cadrg.avx"
)
```

3. Write down the number of the path object (i.e. 9060)

 In the following steps you will use the find tool to replace the references to this object.

4. Delete the extension object from the dependency list

Before:

Dependencies: 9058

```

Dependencies: 9059
Dependencies: 9060
Dependencies: 9061
Dependencies: 9062
Dependencies: 9063
Dependencies: 9064

```

After:

```

Dependencies:      9058
Dependencies: 9059
Dependencies: 9061
Dependencies: 9062
Dependencies: 9063
Dependencies: 9064

```

##### 5. Delete the Extension path object

Before:

```

(FN.9059
    Path: "$AVEXT/adrg.avx"
)

(FN.9060
    Path: "$AVEXT/cadrg.avx"
)

(FN.9061
    Path: "$AVEXT/stmap.avx"
)

```

After:

```

(FN.9059
    Path: "$AVEXT/adrg.avx"
)

(FN.9061
    Path: "$AVEXT/stmap.avx"
)

```

##### 6. Remove the extension from the Dependencies list

Before:

```

Dependencies:
    "$AVEXT/adrg.avx\n$AVEXT/cadrg.
$AVEXT/arcpress.avx\n$AVEXT/spatial.av

```

After:

Dependencies:

```
"$AVEXT/adrg.avx\n$AVEXT/smap.a  
$AVEXT/spatial.avx\n"
```

7. Save the file in Wordpad
8. Open ArcView
9. Make sure the CIB and CADRГ extension are turned c
10. Open the project



Follow the same steps above to remove the CIB ex  
Project file. Search for "CIB" instead of "CADRG".

#### E. Conflicts with other extensions [-show me-](#)

##### Description

The first attempt to add a DGN file as a theme returns a Se

##### Cause

The DGN file contains tag elements that don't have a value

Use Microstation 95 to define a value type for the tag, as in

##### Solution

1. Click Tags under the Element menu, then Define.
2. On the Tag Set dialog box, select a tag under the Tag
3. If the Type drop down list is blank, specify either Cha
4. Repeat steps one to three for each tag and save the f



The ArcView Help, under the 'CAD Drawings and A  
classes,' states that tag elements are not supported.

#### 5. System conflicts [-show me-](#)

##### Description

This article contains a series of steps to determine where sy

##### Cause

System conflicts on the machine can cause segmentation vi

##### Solution



Some of the following instructions may cause serious pr  
system if not followed correctly. Before implementing any c  
instructions, it is recommend you make a complete backup  
system, including the OS, the registry, applications, local pr  
data. Revert to the backup if some of the recovery options  
See your systems administrator for assistance before proce



not responsible for problems that result from incorrect implementation of these instructions. Your OS and service packs may affect the instructions. These instructions are subject to change without notice.

1. Check Video Cards, Network Cards, Sound Cards:

a. Reboot in Safe Mode.

- ▣ Windows 95: hold down the F5 key upon startup.
- ▣ Windows 98: hold down the F8 key upon startup.
- ▣ Windows NT: Choose VGA mode from startup menu

You should see 'safemode' in all four corners of your screen. Video cards, and sound cards. Safemode makes no permanent changes.

b. Start ArcView and open your project. If you do not see any offending devices. You may find them at the device manager.

2. Disable Transient Stay Resident (TSR) programs:

Turn off or disable all TSR programs, such as virus checkers, to determine the source of the conflict.

3. Disable external devices:

A Zip/Jazz drive, Intellimouse, or any other accessories may cause segmentation violation errors, try enabling one device at a time.

o [Segmentation Violation](#)

Segmentation Violations occur under various circumstances.

o You add data.

1. System resources may be running low. [-show me-](#)


## Summary

Tips for running ArcView more effectively on Windows machines.

## Procedure

- o Ensure your system's virtual memory setting is adequate. [Change your system's Virtual Memory settings](#)


The amount of virtual memory needed depends on the size of the data set. Try increasing the Virtual Memory setting to 20% of the available physical memory.

 If you configure Windows 98/95 to let Windows manage virtual memory, your system will always have enough virtual memory. There is enough free space on the C:\ drive.

- o Make sure your system's disk drives have ample free space. [Check the amount of free space on a disk drive](#)

The amount of free space is important if the drive stores the data. [Get a list of environment variables](#)

If a disk is low on free space, use Windows Explorer to

 Extremely large TEMP and/or HOME directories (1GB or more) can cause problems when editing data files such as theme files in the HOME or TEMP directories and/or inadequate disk space during the editing process, or can cause your data to be lost.

## 2. Bad data in:

Shapefiles [-show me-](#)


### Summary

A project file may get corrupted by system crashes, or by other situations are varied and are beyond the scope of this document.

### Procedure

Given that the extent of the damage to the project file is unknown:

- o Before attempting the recovery process:

 **Make a copy of the damaged .apr file under a different name. A backup copy may be needed to revert to if some of the recovery steps do not work.**

Keep in mind that an .apr file is a type of ODB file (or

- o Basic recovery:  
Import damaged project into a new project  
[Import damaged project into a new project](#)
- o Data oriented project repair:  
If the basic recovery process does not work, it may be necessary to use the [How to determine if project file has corrupt data or work](#) tool.
- o Document oriented project repair:  
If after removing all the data sets from the project it still does not work, use the [How to determine if you have a bad reference in your project](#) tool.
- o Miscellaneous recommendations:

You can keep the .apr file open in the text editor while you perform the recovery sequences:

Ctrl+Z will Undo your last edit  
Ctrl+F is the shortcut to Find (except in the main window)  
Ctrl+H is the shortcut to Find and Replace  
Esc will dismiss a window

After recovering your project, whether completely or partially, the main file becomes corrupt again.

- o [Segmentation Violation](#)  
Segmentation Violations occur under various circumstances.

CAD/DGN [-show me-](#)

### Description

The first attempt to add a DGN file as a theme returns a Se

### Cause

The DGN file contains tag elements that don't have a value

Use Microstation 95 to define a value type for the tag, as in

### Solution

1. Click Tags under the Element menu, then Define.
2. On the Tag Set dialog box, select a tag under the Tag
3. If the Type drop down list is blank, specify either Cha
4. Repeat steps one to three for each tag and save the f



The ArcView Help, under the 'CAD Drawings and A classes,' states that tag elements are not supported.

- o You run a script.

1. System resources may be running low. [-show me-](#)

### Summary

Tips for running ArcView more effectively on Windows mach

### Procedure

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## 2. Bad data [-show me-](#)

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1. Click Tags under the Element menu, then Define.
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4. Repeat steps one to three for each tag and save the f

 The ArcView Help, under the 'CAD Drawings and A classes,' states that tag elements are not supported.

## 3. Faulty Avenue code

 Detecting and fixing faulty Avenue code can be quite complex. If this seems to be the case, please contact Technical Support.

### o You load an extension.

#### 1. Conflicts with other extensions [-show me-](#)

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The first attempt to add a DGN file as a theme returns a Se


### Cause

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 The ArcView Help, under the 'CAD Drawings and A classes,' states that tag elements are not supported.

## 2. Faulty Avenue code

### o You print or export a map.

#### 1. System resources may be running low. [-show me-](#)

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## 2. Corrupt APR file, check its structure [-show me-](#)

### Summary

An .apr file is an Object Database stored in ASCII text form

### Procedure



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Each object is bound by a set of parenthesis. The first  
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process of elimination.  
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You can keep the .apr file open in the text editor whil sequences:

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After recovering your project, whether completely or the eventuality the main file becomes corrupt again.

- o [Segmentation Violation](#)  
Segmentation Violations occur under various circumstances

CAD/DGN [-show me-](#)

### Description

The first attempt to add a DGN file as a theme returns a Segmentation Violation error.

### Cause

The DGN file contains tag elements that don't have a value type.

Use Microstation 95 to define a value type for the tag, as in the following example.

### Solution

1. Click Tags under the Element menu, then Define.
2. On the Tag Set dialog box, select a tag under the Tag Set list.
3. If the Type drop down list is blank, specify either Character or Text.
4. Repeat steps one to three for each tag and save the file.



The ArcView Help, under the 'CAD Drawings and Applications' section, states that tag elements are not supported.

## Related Information

- o [Beat Segmentation Violations before they happen](#)  
Segmentation Violations may occur during using ArcView under a variety of circumstances. Use the following information to avoid them.
- o [Salvage a damaged ArcView project file](#)  
A project file may get corrupted by system crashes, or by operations that yield one of these error messages.

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