Subject: Re: IDL 8.2.1 released Posted by Mark Piper on Thu, 04 Oct 2012 16:06:13 GMT

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On Wednesday, October 3, 2012 5:33:14 PM UTC-6, David Fanning wrote:
> Mark Piper writes:
>
>
>> IDL 8.2.1 is now available for download from our website, www.exelisvis.com. I've listed
what's new here:
>>
>
     http://idldatapoint.com/2012/10/03/idl-8-2-1-released/
>>
>
>>
>> and included a link to download a set of example programs.
>
>
>
  You know what seems to be missing here? Quality control.
  Here are the first two things I tried. Honestly. I don't
>
>
  make this stuff up.
>
>
  I went to Mark's website and read his blurb about the new
  ColorTable function. I thought that was neat, so I downloaded
>
  and installed IDL 8.2.1. The first thing I read in the
>
  ColorTable documentation was this sort of odd description
>
>
  of the Background keyword:
>
>
>
    "Set this keyword to a string or three-element array describing
>
>
     the colors of the table. Default value is [0, 0, 0]."
>
>
>
>
```

```
OK, so I used the example right there in the documenation and
>
>
> tried to set a yellow background keyword, since I don't really
>
  understand what a background keyword can really be used for
>
  in a ColorTable function. Here is what I typed:
>
>
>
>
   IDL> ctable = COLORTABLE([[085,026,139],[135,206,255],[0,255,0]], $
>
>
        NCOLORS = levels, /TRANSPOSE, Background=[255,255,0])
>
>
>
>
  Here is the error I got:
>
>
>
    % COLORTABLE: BACKGROUND must be a RGB triplet or string
>
>
>
>
> Sigh...
Yes, this is unfortunate. I'm in contact with the developer who wrote COLORTABLE, and since
this is pro code, I'll provide an updated version as soon as possible.
>
> Ok, so moving on, the next thing in Mark's list that caught
 my eye was a new "Class Hierarchy view for viewing properties
>
  and methods of super- and subclasses." Again, a little oddly
>
>
  phrased, but I just assume the documenatation writer is not
>
  a native English speaker. I understand what he meant. And,
>
  OK, I can definitely use that!
>
>
  So, I open my cgMap object, which inherits a cgCoord object,
>
  which inherits a cgContainer object, which inherits both an
```

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>
  IDL_Object and an IDL_Container object. Perfect test.
>
  I don't know how to describe what I ended up with, but
  "hierarchtical view" doesn't really do it justice. "God-awful
>
  mis-mash" comes closer. Here is a picture of it.
>
>
>
    http://www.idlcoyote.com/misc/class_hierarchy.png
>
>
>
  Do you suppose that is what this is *suppose* to look like!?
It looks like this:
  http://idldatapoint.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/screenshot-w indows.png
on Windows and like this:
  http://idldatapoint.files.wordpress.com/2012/10/screenshot-linux.png
on Linux (the two OS I have available to me right now).
  I've got other things to do. I'm really restoring a computer
> that refuses to boot and is resisting all attempts at repair.
  I'm just looking at this stuff for fun and because I like to
>
  be up-to-date on the latest catastrophies. :-)
>
> Cheers,
> David
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> > -- > -- > David Fanning, Ph.D. > Fanning Software Consulting, Inc. > Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/ > Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thos speakest truth.")
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