
Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2008 22:05:19 GMT
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frankosuna writes:

- > I'm trying to create a bmp image file off of a display window but the
- > file size once created is about 3.0mb.
- > I've created images using the z-buffer and a 1024x1024 image was about
- > 1.0mb but this one is also a 1024x1024 so I'm not sure what is going
- > on. Any help is greatly appreciated

The way you are setting your Z-graphics buffer up, it is an 8-bit device. Your display is undoubtedly a 24-bit graphic device. TVREAD is smart enough to figure out what sort of device you are on. In the 8-bit case, it creates a color PNG image by writing the 8-bit screen capture and the RGB vectors of the current color table. In the 24-bit case, it just creates a 24-bit image. (So, I think the result is a [1024,1024,3] array, not a [1024,1024]. This accounts for it being three times the size of the image you created in the 8-bit case.)

TVREAD used to always write a smaller image, but of course that compromised colors in real 24-bit space, since to do that you have to restrict everything to 256 colors. It seemed the wrong thing to do. So, when it can preserve 24-bit colors, it now always does so.

If you want to read from your display, and make an 8-bit PNG image, you can be my guest. Use COLOR_QUAN to reduce the 24-bit screen capture to an 8-bit image and the three color vectors that describe the reduced number of colors in the image.

```
image24bit = TVRD(TRUE=1)
image8bit = Color_Quan(image24bit, 3, r, g, b)
Write_PNG, filename, image8bit, r, g, b
```

That should result in an image that is about 1MByte.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 27 Sep 2008 22:07:00 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

```
> image24bit = TVRD(TRUE=1)
> image8bit = Color_Quan(image24bit, 3, r, g, b)
> Write_PNG, filename, image8bit, r, g, b
```

Whoops, this should be:

```
image24bit = TVRD(TRUE=3)
image8bit = Color_Quan(image24bit, 3, r, g, b)
Write_PNG, filename, image8bit, r, g, b
```

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2008 01:51:32 GMT
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Thank you very much Dr. Fanning! This seems to get the results I need.
However, I seem to be getting a pop up window when using the tvrd
without anything
on it. Is there anyway to block this from happening?

Thanks,

Frank

Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2008 02:08:54 GMT
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frankosuna writes:

- > Thank you very much Dr. Fanning! This seems to get the results I need.
- > However, I seem to be getting a pop up window when using the tvrd
- > without anything
- > on it. Is there anyway to block this from happening?

Say what!? From TVRD or from TVREAD? Is the window the size of a graphics window?

Don't have the foggiest idea what is going on. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2008 02:52:01 GMT
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I'm using the exact code you posted so its from tvrd. I'llplay around with it some more to see if I can fix it. Thank you very much for all your help!

Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2008 04:02:23 GMT
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frankosuna writes:

- > I'm using the exact code you posted so its from tvrd. I'llplay around
- > with it some more to see if I can fix it. Thank you very much for all
- > your help!

Yeah, I don't know. Too weird. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2008 04:04:18 GMT
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yup I got it... it was the way I was closing the windows. I was closing window 0 right away, so I just close it after I do all the image creation code. Not really sure why it would do that but it works! Thanks again Dr. Fanning! You are THE IDL GOD!! I'm going to acknowledge you for all your help in my thesis paper.

Thanks,

Frank

Subject: Re: Image file creation file size too large
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 28 Sep 2008 04:33:10 GMT
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frankosuna writes:

> Thanks again Dr. Fanning! You are THE IDL GOD!!

This is what my wife was telling me, or something like it, when she ordered me to get the damn garbage out, PLEASE!

But, I appreciate the acknowledgement. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
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