
Subject: IDL-69024 bug fixed in v8.4?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 28 Jul 2015 19:06:59 GMT

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Hello,

Once again, I'm tearing my hair out about the quality of function-graphics-generated PNG output (via Save method) versus the onscreen look.

Searching the idl newsgroup archive I found the post where

<quote>

```
$ export IDL_DISABLE_STROKED_LINES=1
```

The issue has been reported as IDL-69024.

</quote>

would get around the issue (and it mostly does)

Does anyone know if this problem was fixed in v8.4? (I still have 8.3).

Chris Torrance talked about a new ANTIALIAS keyword to the ::Save method in a post back in Feb2014 - the online v8.4.1 docs tells me it's available in the ::Save method....but does it do the job?

(I need a reason for an upgrade request)

Thanks for any info.

cheers,

paulv

Subject: Re: IDL-69024 bug fixed in v8.4?

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Wed, 29 Jul 2015 07:45:19 GMT

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Hi Paul,

I have 8.4.1. How can I reproduce your error/problem?

I've put the results of David's procedure that can be found here:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/gallery/additional_axes_plot_fg.pro

in here:

<http://idl.marchetto.de/antialias-test/>

I don't see any difference with or without the antialias.

Is this different from what you get with 8.3?

Cheers,
Helder

Subject: Re: IDL-69024 bug fixed in v8.4?
Posted by [chris_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Wed, 29 Jul 2015 20:49:14 GMT
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On Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 1:07:03 PM UTC-6, Paul van Delst wrote:

> Hello,
>
> Once again, I'm tearing my hair out about the quality of
> function-graphics-generated PNG output (via Save method) versus the
> onscreen look.
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> Searching the idl newsgroup archive I found the post where
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> available in the ::Save method....but does it do the job?
>
> (I need a reason for an upgrade request)
>
> Thanks for any info.
>
> cheers,
>
> paulv

Hi paulv,

This bug is not fixed. It turns out to be a very difficult problem. I would recommend using either the IDL_DISABLE_STROKED_LINES workaround, or perhaps playing around with the ANTIALIAS keyword which was added for IDL 8.4.

-Chris

Subject: Re: IDL-69024 bug fixed in v8.4?
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 03 Aug 2015 13:42:52 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi Helder,

On 07/29/15 03:45, Helder wrote:

- > Hi Paul,
- > I have 8.4.1. How can I reproduce your error/problem?
- > I've put the results of David's procedure that can be found here:
- > http://www.idlcoyote.com/gallery/additional_axes_plot_fg.pro
- >
- > in here:
- > <http://idl.marchetto.de/antialias-test/>
- >
- > I don't see any difference with or without the antialias.
- >
- > Is this different from what you get with 8.3?

Yes.

How it appears onscreen (via a screen capture) is shown here:
[ftp://ftp.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/jcsda/CRTM/.plots/atms_npp-12.on screen.png](ftp://ftp.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/jcsda/CRTM/.plots/atms_npp-12.on%20screen.png)
Lovely!

The FG output using the ::Save method is shown here:
ftp://ftp.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/jcsda/CRTM/.plots/atms_npp-12.png
Chunky!

The most obvious indications of the problem are the smooth sides of the plots - using ::Save they are noticeably pixelated. It reminds me of my early postgrad days when I was writing assembly code on my pokey 8088 PC-XT with a 640x512 screen to implement Brensenham's algorithm[*]

ChrisT answered my question re: the bug fix and, since you don't see any difference in your test when you use the Alias keyword, I guess it's time for me to ask for an upgrade.

Thanks,

paulv

[*] taken from Byte magazine! Gosh. Good times. :o)

Subject: Re: IDL-69024 bug fixed in v8.4?
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 03 Aug 2015 13:44:12 GMT
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On 07/29/15 16:49, Chris Torrence wrote:

> On Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 1:07:03 PM UTC-6, Paul van Delst wrote:

>>

>> <quote>

>> \$ export IDL_DISABLE_STROKED_LINES=1

>>

>> The issue has been reported as IDL-69024.

>> </quote>

>>

>

> Hi paulv,

>

> This bug is not fixed. It turns out to be a very difficult problem.

> I would recommend using either the IDL_DISABLE_STROKED_LINES workaround,

> or perhaps playing around with the ANTIALIAS keyword which was added for

> IDL 8.4.

O.k., thanks Chris.

cheers,

paulv
