SAP BusinessObjects

SAP Crystal Reports Viewer Differences Guide

- SAP Crystal Reports Viewer 2011

2012-03-14

SAP

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2012-03-14

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Differences Between Designer and Viewer

This guide lists differences between the SAP Crystal Reports 2011 designer and SAP Crystal Reports Viewer 2011 with respect to loading reports, report layout, printing limitations, and so on.

1.1 Types of reports that will not load in the viewer

You will receive an error message when you try to open one of the following types of reports in Crystal Reports Viewer:

- Reports that have no saved data, unless they are being accessed online from BusinessObjects Enterprise and you have the appropriate rights.
- Reports that use Business Views as a data source.
- Reports that use universes as a data source.

  Note:
  Static instances of reports that use universes will open if these reports are downloaded from BusinessObjects Enterprise.

- Reports that use Crystal Dictionaries as a data source.
- Reports that use Crystal Queries as a data source.
- Reports that depend on UFLs.
- Reports that are successfully using "Perform Grouping on Server".

  (That is, the generated report SQL contains a "Group by" clause).

1.2 Types of reports that will have different data

Shared variables in formulas

Reports that use shared variables in formulas will produce differences in data between Crystal Reports Viewer 2011 and Crystal Reports 2011 (designer).

The differences include:

- In the viewer, subreports do not update the date of the main report until the subreport is completely finished formatting. In the designer, the date is updated at every page break.

- In the viewer, the drill down views start with the formula state in the context of where you are drilling down. In the designer drill down views start with an empty formula state.
- In the viewer, multiple subreports in the same section interact only after the first subreport is fully formatted. In the designer this is only true if the subreports are not broken by a page break.
- In the viewer, suppressed subreports which have side effects will be evaluated. In the designer they are not evaluated if the subreport is in a hidden or suppressed section and the subreport is linked to the main report. The designer behavior is inconsistent with the behavior for other objects with side effects.

Formula side-effect differences

In Crystal Reports Viewer 2011, formula side-effects do not propagate beyond the current cell in a crosstab. In Crystal Reports 2011 side-effects are propagated, but the behavior is not deterministic as it depends on the order that pages are viewed.

Print Date versus Data Date

Reports that depend on Print Date, Print Time, or related formulas (such as `Last60Days`) as part of their record selection formula and do not have the Print Date and Time locked, will display a smaller set of data.

The viewer uses the last saved print date in the report. The smaller data set occurs only if the data date is different from the last print date.

Group Header versus Group Footer formatting

Group name fields are consistent in Crystal Reports Viewer no matter whether they are in the "Group Header" or "Group Footer" section or in the Group Tree. Crystal Reports might have different values in the "Group Footer".

Original-order grouping

Reports that use original-order grouping may display the records in a different order when opened in the viewer.

This behavior occurs if the report data needs to be changed based on external information, such as date or time.

Sorting

In general, sorting may be slightly different because the Crystal Reports designer uses a word-based sort, but the viewer uses a Unicode sort. Certain characters, such as hyphens and apostrophes sort differently in the viewer.

Hierarchical grouping and Group Selection formulas

For reports that use Hierarchical grouping, and have a Group Selection formula that filters out all records, the number that appears in the "Group Header" or "Group Footer" may be different.

1.3 Types of reports that will have different layout

Note:
The issues that can cause a report to have different data will often also cause the reports to have a different layout.

Report objects that are not displayed

Instead of displaying the objects that are listed in the following table, the viewer replaces the object with a text object that is the same size and contains the text "<object> not supported". Because this object is displayed in the size it was in the design view of Crystal Reports, formatting differences might occur.

Report object	What you will see
Map	A placeholder is displayed and, similarly, the placeholder is used for exporting and printing.
OLAP Grid / OLAP Chart	A placeholder is displayed and, similarly, the placeholder is used for exporting and printing.
Subreports	In general, subreports with saved data display correctly. There are, however, some exceptions: • Linked subreports or subreports in hidden or conditionally suppressed sections will not display if they do not have saved data. • Linked subreports that depend on the print-time formula state for the link might have formatting differences. • You cannot drill into on-demand subreports, but rendering, exporting, and printing are not otherwise affected.
Right-to-left (RTL) languages	The object is not supported for exporting to PDF format. Rendering, exporting, and printing might be affected.
Thai ligatures	The object is not supported for exporting to PDF format. Rendering, exporting, and printing might be affected.
Images	When exporting to RTF, images are exported one to a line.

Font-related differences

Fonts may appear differently in the viewer. These are a few differences you might notice:

- Fonts in the Crystal Reports Viewer appear to be taller than the same font in Crystal Reports. This difference leads to line-height differences. As a result, reports where you have a multi-line text object next to which you have placed other objects to align them vertically, may not appear correctly.
- The difference in line height also leads to sections taking up more vertical space, which means that some reports are paginated differently.

- When a report uses a font that is not found on the machine, the viewer substitutes a font from the machine. This action may lead to text measurements that are not the same.

  Note:
  If no matching font can be found, the viewer defaults to Arial.

Chart appearance

Charts may appear differently in the viewer. However, the general layout and overall meaning of the chart will not change. These are a few differences you might notice:

- Axis labels that were moved manually are moved to their default positions.
- 2D charts are automatically arranged to create an attractively formatted chart. This sometimes leads to differences in label settings and frame size so that labels won't overlap.
- Smooth-style trend lines will not appear.

Suppress blank subreport

Crystal Reports allocates space to an empty subreport, even though you have selected the **Suppress Blank Subreport** option. This behavior causes sections containing blank subreports to grow larger. The behavior does not occur in the Crystal Reports Viewer.

Currency symbol differences

Currency symbol may appear differently in position and appearance in Crystal Reports for Eclipse and Crystal Reports Viewer compared to Crystal Reports 2011.

For example, when viewing reports containing currencies in Russian locale, the Russian currency symbol is “py6####” instead of “####p”.

1.4 Printing limitations

The following table summarizes the major printing limitations that you might encounter in Crystal Reports Viewer.

Page settings set in report?	Printer specified on the report author's machine?	Crystal Reports — what you view is what you print	Crystal Reports Viewer — what you view is what the report was created with	Printing
No	No	8.5 x 11 rendered using no printer setting	8.5 x 11 rendered using no printer setting	Use local printer setting
No	Yes	Use the default printer settings of the report consumer machine	Use the default printer settings of the report consumer machine	Use local printer setting

Page settings set in report?	Printer specified on the report author's machine?	Crystal Reports — what you view is what you print	Crystal Reports Viewer — what you view is what the report was created with	Printing
Yes	Yes	Custom page size with local printer configuration	Use custom page size; create best match between new printer settings and original printer	Use local printer setting

Note:
If you open a report in which the paper size selected by the report designer is not available, Crystal Reports Viewer will display the report in its original paper size. If you print the report from the viewer, the output is reduced to fit to the default paper size.

More Information

Information Resource	Location
SAP product information	http://www.sap.com
SAP Help Portal	http://help.sap.com/businessobjects Access the most up-to-date English documentation covering all SAP BusinessObjects products at the SAP Help Portal: • http://help.sap.com/bobi (Business Intelligence) • http://help.sap.com/boepm (Enterprise Performance Management) • http://help.sap.com/boeim (Enterprise Information Management) Certain guides linked to from the SAP Help Portal are stored on the SAP Service Marketplace. Customers with a maintenance agreement have an authorized user ID to access this site. To obtain an ID, contact your customer support representative. To find a comprehensive list of product documentation in all supported languages, visit:http://help.sap.com/boall.
SAP Support Portal	http://service.sap.com/bosap-support The SAP Support Portal contains information about Customer Support programs and services. It also has links to a wide range of technical information and downloads. Customers with a maintenance agreement have an authorized user ID to access this site. To obtain an ID, contact your customer support representative.
Developer resources	http://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/bi-sdk-dev https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/sdn/businessobjects-sdklibrary
SAP BusinessObjects articles on the SAP Community Network	http://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/boc/articles These articles were formerly known as technical papers.

Information Resource	Location
Notes	https://service.sap.com/notes These notes were formerly known as Knowledge Base articles.
Forums on the SAP Community Network	https://www.sdn.sap.com/irj/scn/forums
Training	http://www.sap.com/services/education From traditional classroom learning to targeted e-learning seminars, we can offer a training package to suit your learning needs and preferred learning style.
Consulting	http://www.sap.com/services/bysubject/businessobjectsconsulting Consultants can accompany you from the initial analysis stage to the delivery of your deployment project. Expertise is available in topics such as relational and multidimensional databases, connectivity, database design tools, and customized embedding technology.