Subject: Re: No colour with TVRD and WRITE_GIF
Posted by Stubbe F. Hviid on Wed, 19 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Paul,

Two things:

You need to tell tvrd() that you want all three color channels (red green and blue)

try:

image=tvrd(/TRUE)

And you will want to use another graphics format than GIF. (ether TIFF or JPEG)

write_tiff, 'filename', image

The problem with GIF is that the format uses a 256 color pallette.
Internally IDL stores the image as a 24bit image (three channels of 8 bit), thus you need to reduce the 16 million different colors IDL uses to 256.
There is a routine called color_quan (I think :-)) which does this, but the results are not terribly good.
It is much better to save the image in a 24 bit image format and then use for example photoshop to generate the GIF file.

        Stubbe

Paul Smith wrote in message <6rb1j1$j54$1@news.latrobe.edu.au>...
> Hi,
> I have a colour plot in a window that I read in with TVRD and then output to
> a GIF with WRITE_GIF. The problem is it only comes out in B&W. At first I
> thought this was WRITE_GIF's problem, but the correct colour palette is
> saved with the image. Then I noticed that the array resulting from TVRD has
> only values 0 and 255. In other words all my colour lines have been made
> white. I've spent a fair bit of time looking through the colour information
> in the manual but no luck.
>
> A couple of points;
> I'm using IDL 5.1 on Win95 with the display set to High Color (16 bit)

> I normally do a DEVICE,decomposed=0 (in startup.pro) before any plotting or
> else I just get shades of red
> I also tried changing the backing store to 2 (handled by IDL)
>
> This seems like it should be a pretty simple task but it eludes me.
> Thanks for any help,
> Paul
>
>