
Subject: Re: 24-bit color Postscript
Posted by [bowman](#) on Mon, 07 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <MPG.105cfb2b4b2f224e98969d@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com
(David Fanning) wrote:

> Well, you might think, since this is a 24-bit PostScript
> printer you've got here, that you can draw a line in a color
> like you would on your display device (i.e., specify the
> color as a 24-bit integer value).
> But, unfortunately, this does NOT work in PostScript.
> Even though you can display 24-bit color images in PostScript,
> you can't for some reason write 24-bit colors like this.
> In fact, you MUST use the INDEXED color model to draw a
> line in a color. But this is not much of a problem in a
> 24-bit world, since you aren't really using the color
> table for anything else.

My thanks to David. I have already replied to him by e-mail.

Is this a Postscript limitation or an IDL limitation? In either case, it
sucks. I need to plot points, not just images, using 24-bit color. That
is, I want to plot thousands of points using more than 256 different
colors. Is there no workaround for this?

I just spent a lot of time developing an IDL application only to find out
I can't print with it. You tell me if you could have learned that from
the description of the Postscript device in the reference manual.

I suppose I'll have to do a high-resolution X image and dump it to the
printer, which defeats the whole point of using Postscript.

Ken Bowman
