
Subject: Re: Baffled by color postscript
Posted by [bowman](#) on Mon, 08 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <36E43A2C.176B9C7B@cis.rit.edu>, drwpci@cis.rit.edu wrote:

```
> OK, I've been through many of David's great web pages, and through the portion
> of his book related to the subject. Still, I get only monochrome output, or
> none at all. Here is what I am doing. Note that this works perfectly for the X
> display (that part between the X-only comments). Running on SGI Octane, IDL
> 5.0 MIPS
>
> ;;;; X-only code starts
> ; loop through the data rgb_index() returns the 24 bit color
> for i = 0, I-1 do begin
>     !p.color = rgb_index(my_rgb[0,i],my_rgb[1,i],my_rgb[2,i])
>     plots, x[i], y[i], psym=4
> end
```

The IDL PostScript device will display 24-bit color *images*, but will
not display 24-bit line graphics (plot, plots, etc.).

I had the same problem a few months back. Because of the poor
documentation of the PS-device color features, even the RSI support tech
had trouble discovering this.

I filed a request with RSI to add full 24-bit color support to their PS
driver. I hope you will do the same. (And anyone else out there who ever
hopes to do 24-bit color graphics!) I'm disappointed that this has never
been done while scads of other 'useful' features have been added to the
language.

The only workaround I know of is to use a high-resolution 24-bit bitmap
(X-Windows or Z-buffer), write the bitmap to a file, import the bitmap
into a 24-bit-aware program, and then print it. I've been using
GraphicConverter on my Mac, but something like xv would probably work on
Unix.

Ken Bowman

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