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Subject: Re: device,decomposed=1 question  
Posted by [Vapuser](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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bowman@null.tamu (Kenneth P. Bowman) writes:

> In article <MPG.1153439eae020777989721@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com  
> (David Fanning) wrote:  
>  
>> No, it doesn't look the value up in the color table. The three  
>> numbers *are* the color. There is no color table involved.  
>> In a 24-bit image, it would be the pixel value in each of the  
>> red, green, and blue planes that create the value that is actually  
>> expressed. Again, no color table involved at all.  
>  
> Actually, some 24-bit devices do have writable color tables. This is the  
> distinction between TrueColor and DirectColor visuals. I believe our  
> SGI's have DirectColor visuals, but most of our other 24-bit hardware does  
> not allow one to change the color maps.  
>

I can't get this to work. On my SGI (an Octane running 6.5.2)  
there's no difference between TrueColor and DirectColor visuals  
(whether decompose=1 or 0)) and, with /decomposed, both work as David  
suggests, the color specified in the 'color=...' keyword *is* the  
color, not a composited number comprising the three indices into a  
color table.

The IDL help claims the DirectColor visuals allow for a writable  
color table. I just can't seem to demonstrate what that means, or  
whether it is, in fact, true. It certainly looks like, for all intents  
and purposes, TrueColor=DirectColor.

Could you create a small example program, or give me a hint on how  
to do it myself? I would have use of this capability and would love to  
see how it works.

> Ken Bowman  
>  
> --  
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