
Subject: Re: Colour maps overlaid on grey-scale (medical) images

Posted by [bowman](#) on Thu, 25 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.115fe42a3c79ceeb989727@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

- > Do you have
- > a simple example that shows us *how* to directly manipulate
- > the RGB values?

My thought was that one image (the 'base' image) is loaded into the 24-bit image as gray-scale. That is, with equal R, G, and B values. The other image is used to identify some pixels that should be colored. The R, G, and B values for those pixels are then changed to produce, say, a "red gray-scale" to indicate the parameter identified in the second image.

Below is some code for a different kind of problem. I'm plotting points (with PLOTS) to represent two different quantities, a and b, simultaneously, one coded by the red intensity and one by the green intensity. If both quantities are large, then the color should be yellow (R + G). If both are small, however, I want white not black, so that I can plot on a white background.

```
;a and b are in the range 0.0 to 1.0
np = N_ELEMENTS(a) ;Number of points to be plotted
COLOR_CONVERT, BYTE(255.0*a), $ ;Convert red and green to HSV
    BYTE(255.0*b), REPLICATE(0.0, np), h, s, v, /RGB_HSV
s = v ;Make background white instead
of black
v[*] = 1.0 ;Make background white instead
of black
COLOR_CONVERT, h, s, v, r, g, b, /HSV_RGB ;Convert HSV back to RGB
point_color = COLOR_24(r, g, b) ;24-bit color for each point to
be plotted
```

The lesson here is that it is often easier to work in the HSV or HSL color models. (I prefer HSV - H represents the 'color', S is like the amount of that color pigment added into a can of white paint, and V controls the overall 'brightness' level between black and full illumination. If I remember the numerical values correctly (H, S, V) = (0, 128, 255) gives bright pink.

Similar things would work with image pixel values.

Ken

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