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Subject: Device Independent Colors

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 08 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi Folks,

As part of a continuing effort on my part to write programs that behave in a device-independent way, I have upgraded my GetColor program. In particular, I am interested in writing programs in which I can specify colors without regard to whether I am on an 8-bit or 24-bit display, or without regard to whether color decomposition is on or off.

To that end, I have added new LOAD and START keywords to GetColor that will automatically load the 16 McIDAS colors available in GetColor in a manner in which they are device and color decomposition independent.

For example, the following code will behave correctly on 8-bit and 24-bit displays, no matter what the state of color decomposition. (Please note that you can obtain the color decomposition state only in IDL 5.2 and higher.)

```
colors = GetColor(/Load, Start=230)
Plot, data, Color=colors.yellow, Background=colors.gray
OPlot, data, PSym=4, Color=colors.green
```

You can find the GetColor program here:

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/getcolor.pro>

Cheers,

David

P.S. As always, I'm looking for volunteer bug finders. :-)

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