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Subject: Re: Unsupported X Windows visual???

Posted by [dirk](#) on Wed, 25 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <37C184E0.F1B00A6F@ssec.wisc.edu>,

Liam Gumley <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:

> Todd David Halter wrote:

>> I am running IDL 5.2.1 on a RedHat Linux 6.0 i86 machine with 24bpp. When I do a device,decompose=0 I get the following error:

>> Unsupported X Windows visual (class: PseudoColor, depth: 8).

>> Substituting default (class: TrueColor, Depth: 24).

>> Any ideas on how I can get it to do depth 8 and not depth 24.

>

> While most name-brand Unix consoles (SGI, Sun, IBM etc.) support IDL

> 8-bit PseudoColor while running a 24-bit desktop, Linux does not. At

> least most of the common Linux Xserver packages don't support it (e.g.

> XFree86), although AcceleratedX might.

>

> If you \*really\* want to run IDL in 8-bit PseudoColor mode, you'll need

> to restart your Xserver e.g.

>

> startx -- -bpp 8

>

> Cheers,

> Liam.

Not necessarily. RedHat comes with a little program called Xwrapper that starts a new X session under the old.

You can be running in 24bpp in one session and then run

Xwrapper :1 -bpp 8 -query localhost

to start a new session in 8bpp. Use Cntrl-Alt-F7 and Cntrl-Alt-F8 to switch between the two sessions. This prevents any mucking around with config files and a bit more productivity since you don't have to think "am i going to need IDL today" before you log in.

Cheers, Dirk

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