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Subject: Re: Obtaining the number of the current color table

Posted by [m218003](#) on Tue, 23 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <383905FE.199BD844@mpia-hd.mpg.de>, Markus Feldt <mfeldt@mpia-hd.mpg.de> writes:

>  
> -----044D86DA089246E71003A164  
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
>  
> Hi All,  
>  
> currently I am writing a package of software that for some reason has  
> to keep track of the currently active colortable. To give the user a  
> chance to adjust this table, I am calling (since it all has to be  
> GUIfied these days...) xloadct - but xloadct itself does not give back  
> the number of the loaded table.  
>  
> Does anybody know how to comfortably obtain this number? I know there  
> is XCOLORS which might help via an event, but I'd rather rely on  
> standard functions...

>  
This is not as easy as you may think: first of all, LOADCT (the non-GUI equivalent of XLOADCT) accepts keywords like BOTTOM or NCOLORS which have an obvious effect on \*how\* the color table is loaded \*and\* which allow you to have more than one "active" colortable at a time. Furthermore, you can manipulate individual entries in the colortable (see for example David F's GETCOLOR program). Therefore, strictly speaking, there is no such thing as "the currently active colortable". What is offered in IDL though, is the retrieval of the three currently active color vectors:

TVLCT,r,g,b,/GET

This returns one vector for each red, green, and blue typically of length 100-220 on 8 bit displays, and 256(?) on 24 bit displays. If you want to make sure to use exactly these same colors again later on, you can store these values in the UVALUE field of your widget (as you mentioned everything is GUIfied), then call TVLCT,r,g,b to set them back. But be aware of side-effects when you have more than one window on the screen!

Regards,  
Martin.

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