"R. Kyle Justice" wrote:
>
> I have a filled contour plot that I would like to
> display with a color bar. Everything looks fine
> on the screen but when I try to print, the colors
> on the bar are no longer correct. They appear
> washed out(dithered?). The contour colors, however,
> appear correct. If I look at the file with
> ghostscript, everything looks fine.
>
> I am generating the color bar with TV. It seems
> that the printer is treating a plot and an image
> differently.
>
> Kyle J.

If you have discrete colors in your contours and colorbar, you could
try out my colorbar (should be renamed to mgs_colorbar) routine which
you find at
 http://www.mpimet.mpg.de/~schultz.martin/idl/html/libmartin_ schultz.html
If you supply this routine with a levels and c_colors keyword, it will
draw filled rectangles with the same c_colors (and levels) you use in
the contour command. If that doesn't show up correctly in your
printout then I have really no idea what's going on.

Cheers,

Martin

PS: Ooops. I just recognize there was a recent bugfix. So, I attach
the new version which is now called mgs_colorbar.pro

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 [[[[[[[[[[
[[Dr. Martin Schultz   Max-Planck-Institut fuer Meteorologie   [[
[[Bundesstr. 55, 20146 Hamburg   [[
[[phone: +49 40 41173-308   [[
[[fax: +49 40 41173-298   [[
[[martin.schultz@dkrz.de   [[
 [[[[[[[[[[
;+
; NAME:
;   COLORBAR
;

```
; PURPOSE:
;       Draw a colorbar (legend) with labels
;
; CATEGORY:
;       Colors
;
; CALLING SEQUENCE:
;       COLORBAR [,options]
;
; INPUTS:
;
; KEYWORD PARAMETERS:
;       COLOR  -> the drawing color for boxes and labels
;           (default: !P.COLOR)
;
;       BOTTOM -> first color index to use (default: 1)
;
;       NCOLORS -> number of colors to use (default:
;           !D.N_Colors-bottom)
;
;       MIN, MAX -> range of the data (default bottom and
;           bottom+ncolors-1
;
;       LABEL -> array with label values (must be numeric).
;           Normally, it is easier to generate labels with the
;           DIVISIONS options, but this allows tighter control
;           (e.g. 1,2,5,10,20 labels on logarithmic scales).
;           Default (if no DIVISIONS are given): min and max
;
;       DIVISIONS -> number of labels to put on the colorbar.
;           Note that this keyword is overwritten by LABEL.
;           The labels will be equally spaced and the /LOG option
;           will be honored.
;
;       FORMAT -> output format of the labels. Default is determined
;           according to the range given in min and max. Label strings
;           will be trimmed, so you can safely specify f14.2 for example.
;
;       SCIENTIFIC -> If set, will call STRSCI to put the colorbar
;           labels in scientific notation format (e.g. in the form
;           A x 10^B).  STRSCI will use the format string specified
;           in the FORMAT keyword.
;
;       /LOG -> logarithmic spacing of labels (colors are *always*
;           linearily distributed)
;
;       C_COLORS -> array of color indices for "discrete" color bars
;           e.g. in filled contour plots. You must also use the
```

```
;          C_LEVELS keyword, otherwise there will most likely be
;          a mismatch between your plot colors and your colorbar
;          colors. COLORBAR normally limits the number of labels
;          it prints to 10. Use the SKIP keyword to force a different
;          behaviour. If C_COLORS is not undefined it overrides the
;          settings from NCOLORS, and BOTTOM.
;
;       C_LEVELS -> array with label values for discrete colorbars.
;          Use the LABEL keyword for continuous colors. C_LEVELS
;          must have the same number of elements as C_COLORS and
;          assigns one label to each color change (LABEL distributes
;          the labels evenly). Use the SKIP keyword to skip labels.
;          As default, COLORBAR limits the number of labels printed
;          to 10.
;          NB: In order to be consistent with the behaviour of the
;          CONTOUR procedure, colorbar disregards the first entry of
;          C_LEVELS.
;
;       SKIP -> print only every nth discrete label. Default is computed
;          so that COLORBAR will print no more than 10 labels.
;
;       STARTLABEL -> for discrete colorbars: the first left box side to be
;          labeled. Default is 1, i.e. between the first two boxes.
;
;       /VERTICAL -> set this keyword to produce a vertical colorbar
;          (default is horizontal). Note that out-of-range boxes are
;          only implemented for horizontal color bars.
;
;       POSITION -> a position value or 4-element vector. If POSITION
;          contains only one element, it will be centered at the
;          bottom or right side of the page and extend over 60% of
;          the total plotting area.
;
;       CHARSIZE -> character size (default !p.charsize)
;
;       TITLE -> a title string (similar to XTITLE or YTITLE for PLOT)
;
;       UNIT -> a unit string that will be added to the right (top) of
;          the labels
;
;       BotOutOfRange, TopOutOfRange -> a colorindex value for data
;          that falls below or above the normal plot range. If given,
;          an extra box will be drawn to the left or right of the color-
;          bar, and the colorbar will shrink in size. A default label
;          '<' ('>') will be placed below. Note that these options are
;          only available for horizontal colorbars.
;
;       BOR_Label, TOR_Label -> label values for BOTOutOfRange and
```

```
;              TopOutOfRange that replace the defaults.
;
; OUTPUTS:
;
; SUBROUTINES:
;
; REQUIREMENTS:
;      The user should have some knowledge about colortables and the
;      use of parts of a colortable.
;      This program uses STRSCI for labels in scientific notation.
;
; NOTES:
;      This routine was designed after David Fanning's colorbar
;      routine and enhanced. Some of the postscript
;      handling of DF was removed, positioning is a little easier but
;      maybe a little less flexible; out-of-range boxes have been
;      added.
;
; EXAMPLE:
;      ; draw a colorbar with all available colors on top of index 20
;      ; will be placed at the bottom of the page
;
;      colorbar,bottom=20,min=min(data),max=max(data)
;
;      ; draw another colorbar above the first one, use logarithmic scale
;
;      colorbar,bottom=20,min=0.1,max=10.,labels=[0.1,0.5,1.,5.10.] ,/log, $
;          position=0.3,unit='ppt'
;
;      ; (simply add keyword /vertical and you'll get it flipped)
;
;      ; colorbar with out-of-range information on right side only
;      ; Here we used 20 colors for the plot, the 21st is for
;      ; out-of-range data
;
;      colorbar,bottom=20,ncolors=20,min=0,max=100,divisions=5, $
;          TopOutOfRange=40
;
; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
;      mgs, 02 Jun 1998: VERSION 1.00
;      mgs, 14 Nov 1998: - changed default format to f14.2 from f6.2
;      mgs, 19 Nov 1998: - added cbdefaultformat function to better handle
;                    default labeling format.
;      mgs, 28 Nov 1998: - default labelling format now exponential for
;                    values gt 1.e6
;      mgs, 19 May 1999: - unit string placed a little further right
;                    in horizontal colorbars.
;      mgs, 27 May 1999: - added functionality for discrete colorbars
```

```
;                       (C_COLORS, C_LEVELS, and SKIP keywords)
;        bmy, 02 Jun 1999: - added /SCIENTIFIC keyword
;                          - updated comments
;        mgs, 14 Sep 1999: - charsize bug fix. Needed to check for 0.
;        mgs, 23 Sep 1999: - now uses !P.COLOR as default color (as it was originally)
;                          - BOTTOM default now 1 (because 0 is the standard beackground
;                            value)
;        mgs, 17 Dec 1999: - fixed zero division for SKIP=0
;                          - added StartLabel keyword for discrete colorbars
;        mgs, 20 Dec 1999: - disregard first entry of C_LEVELS
;        gjb, 16 Feb 2001: - fixed bug in coordinating levels and
;                            colors
;        mgs, 20 Feb 2001: - renamed to mgs_colorbar
;
;
;-
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;  Harvard University
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; please contact the author.
; Bugs and comments should be directed to mgs@io.harvard.edu
; or bmy@io.harvard.edu with subject "IDL routine colorbar"
 ;---------------------------------------------------------- --


function cbdefaultformat,minv,maxv,log=log

  ; return default format string depending on min and max value
  ; and log flag

  res = '(f14.2)'            ; general default

  ; determine necessary number of decimal places
  ndec = fix( 2.-alog10( (maxv-minv) > 1.0E-31 ) )
  ndecmin = fix( 2.-alog10( minv > 1.0E-31 ) )

  if (keyword_set(log)) then ndec = max([ndec,ndecmin-1])

  if (ndec gt 2) then res = '(e12.3)'
  if (ndec eq 3 AND log) then res = '(f14.3)'
  if (ndec le 0) then res = '(I14)'
  if (ndec le -6) then res = '(e12.3)'

  return,res
```

```
end


pro mgs_colorbar,color=color,bottom=bottom,ncolors=ncolors, $
    min=minv,max=maxv,label=label,divisions=divisions, $
     c_colors=c_colors,c_levels=c_levels,skip=skip,startlabel=sta rtlabel,  $
    format=format,log=log,    $
    vertical=vertical,position=position,charsize=charsize, $
    title=title,unit=unit, $
    BotOutOfRange=BotOutOfRange,TopOutOfRange=TopOutOfRange, $
     BOR_Label=BOR_Label,TOR_Label=TOR_Label,Scientific=Scientifi c


  ; Pass external functions
  FORWARD_FUNCTION StrSci

   ;============================================================ =======
   ; set defaults and determine parameters
   ;============================================================ =======
  IsDiscrete = n_elements(C_Colors) gt 0 ; discrete colorbar for
                             ; filled contours?

  if (n_elements(color) eq 0) then color = !P.COLOR
  if (n_elements(bottom) eq 0) then bottom = 1
  MAXCOL = !D.N_COLORS<256
  if (bottom ge MAXCOL-1) then bottom = MAXCOL-1
  if (n_elements(ncolors) eq 0) then ncolors = MAXCOL-bottom
  if (ncolors gt MAXCOL-bottom) then ncolors = MAXCOL-bottom
  if (n_elements(minv) eq 0) then minv = bottom
  if (n_elements(maxv) eq 0) then maxv = ncolors
  log = keyword_set(log)
  if (log AND minv le 0.) then minv = 0.01

  if (n_elements(format) eq 0) then $
    format = cbdefaultformat(minv,maxv,log=log)

   ;============================================================ =======
   ; compute default labels
   ;============================================================ =======
  if (IsDiscrete AND n_elements(SKIP) eq 0) then $
    Skip = fix( (n_elements(C_Colors)-1)/10 ) + 1
  if (n_elements(Skip) eq 0) then Skip = 1
  if (n_elements(StartLabel) eq 0) then StartLabel = 0

  if (n_elements(divisions) eq 0) then divisions = 2
  if (IsDiscrete AND n_elements(C_Levels) eq 0) then $
    Divisions = fix( (n_elements(C_Colors)-1)/(Skip>1) ) + 1
```

```
; if (IsDiscrete) then begin
;    print,'#### SKIP,DIVISIONS=',skip,divisions
;    print,'C_Colors=',C_Colors
; endif

  if (n_elements(label) eq 0) then begin
    if (divisions gt 1) then begin
      if (log) then $
        label = 10^(findgen(divisions)/(divisions-1)*  $
                (alog10(maxv/minv))+alog10(minv) ) $
      else $
        label = findgen(divisions)/(divisions-1)*(maxv-minv)+minv
    endif else $
      label = -1
  endif

  ; Overwrite standard labels with C_Levels if given
  if (IsDiscrete AND n_elements(C_Levels) gt 0) then begin
    myC_Levels = C_Levels[1:*]    ; omit first entry to be consistent with CONTOUR
    Ind = indgen( (n_elements(myC_Levels)-1)/(Skip>1) + 1) * Skip + StartLabel
    okInd = where(Ind ge 0 AND Ind lt n_elements(myC_Levels))
    if (okInd[0] lt 0) then begin
      message,'Invalid combination of Skip and StartLabel!',/Continue
      return
    endif
    Ind = Ind[okInd]
    Label = myC_Levels[Ind]
; print,'### C_Levels=',myC_Levels
; print,'### Ind = ',Ind,'   Label = ',Label
  endif

print,'# IsDiscrete = ',IsDiscrete
print,'#### LEVELS = ',myC_Levels
print,'#### LABELS = ',label

  if (n_elements(charsize) eq 0) then charsize = !p.charsize
  if (charsize eq 0) then charsize = 1.

  if (n_elements(title) eq 0) then title = ''
  if (n_elements(unit) eq 0) then unit = ''

  if (n_elements(BotOutOfRange) eq 0) then BotOutOfRange = -1
  if (n_elements(TopOutOfRange) eq 0) then TopOutOfRange = -1
  if (n_elements(BOR_Label) eq 0) then BOR_Label = '<'
  if (n_elements(TOR_Label) eq 0) then TOR_Label = '>'

  vertical = keyword_set(vertical)
```

```
;============================================================ =======
; keep simple: out-of-range boxes only allowed for horizontal bar
; Also, these do not make sense in discrete color bars
;============================================================ =======
if (vertical OR IsDiscrete) then begin
   BotOutOfRange = -1
   TopOutOfRange = -1
endif


;============================================================ =======
; position: if only one element then center bar according
; to vertical keyword and give it a width of 60%
;============================================================ =======
if (n_elements(position) eq 0) then position = abs((vertical) - 0.10)
if (n_elements(position) ne 4) then begin
   if (vertical) then $
      position = [ position[0], 0.2, position[0]+0.03, 0.8 ] $
   else $
      position = [ 0.2, position[0], 0.8, position[0]+0.03 ]
endif


;============================================================ =======
; make space for extra boxes for out of range
;============================================================ =======
barpos = position
x10 = (position[2]-position[0])/10. > 0.03
truecharsize = float(!D.Y_CH_SIZE*charsize)

labelpos = ( position[1] * !D.Y_VSIZE - truecharsize*1.05 ) / $
         !D.Y_VSIZE


;============================================================ =======
; draw rectangles and fill them (out of range boxes)
;============================================================ =======
if (BotOutOfRange ge 0) then begin
   rpos = [ position[0], position[1], position[0]+x10, position[3] ]
   RectAngle,rpos,px,py

;    px = [ position[0], position[0]+x10,position[0]+x10,  $
;          position[0], position[0] ]
;    py = [ position[1], position[1] ,position[3],  $
;          position[3], position[1] ]
   polyfill,px,py,/norm,color=BotOutOfRange,/fill
   plots,px,py,/norm,color=color,thick=!p.thick

   ; annotate
   xyouts,position[0]+x10/2.,labelpos,BOR_Label,/norm, $
```

```
         color=color,align=0.5,charsize=charsize

   ; shorten central bar
   barpos = [ barpos[0]+x10+0.01, barpos[1], $
            barpos[2], barpos[3] ]
 endif

 if (TopOutOfRange ge 0) then begin
    rpos = [ position[2], position[1], position[2]-x10, position[3] ]
    RectAngle,rpos,px,py

 ;   px = [ position[2], position[2]-x10,position[2]-x10,  $
 ;         position[2], position[2] ]
 ;   py = [ position[1], position[1] ,position[3],  $
 ;         position[3], position[1] ]
    polyfill,px,py,/norm,color=TopOutOfRange,/fill
    plots,px,py,/norm,color=color,thick=!p.thick

    ; annotate
    xyouts,position[2]-x10/2.,labelpos,TOR_Label,/norm, $
          color=color,align=0.5,charsize=charsize

    ; shorten central bar
    barpos = [ barpos[0], barpos[1], $
            barpos[2]-x10-0.01, barpos[3] ]
 endif

 ; reset bar position in case of error
 if (barpos[0] gt barpos[2]) then barpos = position


  ;============================================================ =======
 ; create (central) colorbar
  ;============================================================ =======
 xstart = barpos[0] * !D.X_VSIZE
 ystart = barpos[1] * !D.Y_VSIZE
 xsize = (barpos[2] - barpos[0]) * !D.X_VSIZE
 ysize = (barpos[3] - barpos[1]) * !D.Y_VSIZE

 if (IsDiscrete) then begin
    ;============================================================ =====
    ; discrete color bar: need to polyfill individual rectangles
    ; compute position for each rectangle
    ;============================================================ =====
    if (vertical) then begin
      dx = 0.
      dy = ysize/n_elements(C_Colors)
    endif else begin
      dx = xsize/n_elements(C_Colors)
```

```
      dy = 0.
    endelse
    for i=0,n_elements(C_Colors)-1 do begin
      if (vertical) then $
        box = [ xstart, ystart+i*dy, xstart+xsize, ystart+(i+1)*dy ] $
      else  $
        box = [ xstart+i*dx, ystart, xstart+(i+1)*dx, ystart+ysize ]

; print,'### box=',box
; print,'### xstart,xsize,ystart,ysize=',xstart,xsize,ystart,ysize
      RectAngle,box,px,py
      PolyFill,px,py,/DEVICE,color=C_Colors[i]
    endfor

  endif else begin
    ;=============================================================== =====
    ; continuous colorbar: use TV to display a smooth range of colors
    ;=============================================================== =====
    bcol = bindgen(ncolors) + bottom
    if (vertical) then $
      bar = replicate(1B,5) # bcol  $
    else $
      bar = bcol # replicate(1B,5)

    IF (!D.Name eq 'PS') THEN BEGIN
      TV, bar, xstart, ystart, XSIZE=xsize, YSIZE=ysize
    ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
      bar = CONGRID(bar, CEIL(xsize), CEIL(ysize), /INTERP)
      TV, bar, xstart, ystart
    ENDELSE
  endelse

  ; Draw frame around colorbar
;  px = [ barpos[0], barpos[0], barpos[2], barpos[2], barpos[0] ]
;  py = [ barpos[1], barpos[3], barpos[3], barpos[1], barpos[1] ]
  RectAngle,barpos,px,py
  plots,px,py,/norm,color=color,thick=!p.thick


  ;=============================================================== ========
  ; labelling : set up plot coordinates with x or y range eq to
  ; device size, then use position parameters for unit and title
  ;=============================================================== ========
  if (n_elements(label) lt 2) then return


  ;=============================================================== ========
  ; Convert LABEL to string representation SLABEL here
  ; If /SCIENTIFIC is set, then call STRSCI to put the labels into
  ; the form A x 10^B.
```

```
   ;=============================================================== =======
   if ( Keyword_Set( Scientific ) ) then begin
     SLabel = StrSci( Label, /Trim, Format=Format, _EXTRA=e )
   endif else begin
     SLabel = StrTrim( String( Label, Format=Format ), 2 )
   endelse


   ;=============================================================== =======
   ; Vertical colorbar
   ;=============================================================== =======
   if (vertical) then begin
      if (IsDiscrete) then begin
        yrange = [0,n_elements(c_colors)]    ; one more!
        ;; bug fix gjb
        ypos = 1+findgen(n_elements(Label))*Skip+StartLabel
        npos = n_elements(label)+1
      endif else begin
        yrange = [minv,maxv]
        ypos = Label
        npos = n_elements(label)
      endelse

      plot,[0],[0],/nodata,ylog=log,xstyle=5,ystyle=5, $
        xrange=[-(barpos[2]-barpos[0])*!D.X_VSIZE, 0.], $
        yrange=yrange, $
        position=barpos,/NOERASE

      nypos = convert_coord(replicate(0,npos),ypos,/DATA,/TO_NORMAL)
print,ypos
help,slabel & print,slabel
   ;    xyouts,replicate(truecharsize*1.05,n_elements(label)),label, $
      xyouts,replicate(truecharsize*1.05,npos),ypos, $
         SLabel,/data,color=color,charsize=charsize,align=0.5,orient= 90

      plot,[0],[0],/nodata,xstyle=5,ystyle=5, $
        xrange=[-(barpos[2]-barpos[0])*!D.X_VSIZE, 0.], $
        yrange=[0,1], position=position,/NOERASE

      xyouts,truecharsize*1.05,1.1,unit,/data, $
        color=color,charsize=charsize,align=0,orient=90
      xyouts,truecharsize*2.15,0.5,title,/data, $
        color=color,charsize=charsize,align=0.5,orient=90


   ;=============================================================== =======
   ; Horizontal colorbar
   ;=============================================================== =======
   endif else begin
```

```
; print,'### minv,maxv = ',minv,maxv
      if (IsDiscrete) then begin
        xrange = [0,n_elements(c_colors)]   ; one more!
        ;; bug fix gjb
        xpos = 1+findgen(n_elements(Label))*Skip+StartLabel
        npos = n_elements(label)+1
      endif else begin
        xrange = [minv,maxv]
        xpos = Label
        npos = n_elements(label)
      endelse
; print,'### xpos, label=',xpos,label
; if (n_elements(myc_levels) gt 0) then print,'#### c_levels=',myc_levels
; if (n_elements(c_colors) gt 0) then print,'#### c_colors=',c_colors

      plot,[0],[0],/nodata,xlog=(log AND not IsDiscrete),  $
        xstyle=5,ystyle=5, $
        xrange=xrange, $
        yrange=[0, (barpos[3]-barpos[1])*!D.Y_VSIZE], $
        position=barpos,/NOERASE

; print,'#### barpos=',barpos
      nxpos = convert_coord(xpos,replicate(0,npos),/DATA,/TO_NORMAL)
print,labelpos,truecharsize
   ;   xyouts,nxpos[0,*],replicate(labelpos-truecharsize*1.05, npos), $
      xyouts,xpos,replicate(-truecharsize*1.05, npos), $
        slabel, /DATA,color=color,charsize=charsize,align=0.5

      plot,[0],[0],/nodata,xstyle=5,ystyle=5, $
        xrange=[0,1], $
        yrange=[0., (barpos[3]-barpos[1])*!D.Y_VSIZE], $
        position=position,/NOERASE

      xyouts,1.15,-truecharsize*1.05,unit,/data, $
        color=color,charsize=charsize,align=0
      xyouts,0.5,-truecharsize*2.15,title,/data, $
        color=color,charsize=charsize,align=0.5

    endelse


    return
end
```

File Attachments
1) mgs_colorbar.pro, downloaded 106 times