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Subject: Color woes

Posted by [Richard French](#) on Tue, 15 May 2001 03:19:09 GMT

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Hi, folks -

I am posting this for a friend who does not have access to this newsgroup. She is having trouble displaying images in color - I sent her to David Fanning's device,decomposed=0 page but she is still having trouble. I asked her to provide information about the version of IDL, her machine, operating system, graphics card, and a coded example of the specific problem she has. Here is her reply. I hope some of you color experts can pass on a suggestion to her about what to try. Thanks!

(Please post reply here, but feel free to cc: to Rebecca at rdanos@astro.ucla.edu if you think you can help her directly.)

My hunch is that her machine is set up for 16-bit color, but I can't be sure.

Thanks everyone,  
Dick French

> 1) version of IDL, and info about the display  
> IDL> print,!version

```
{ sparc sunos unix 5.4 Sep 25 2000    32    64}
```

> IDL> help,/device

When I do this I get an error:

Available Graphics Devices: CGM HP LJ NULL PCL PRINTER PS REGIS TEK X Z

Current graphics device: X

% Unsupported X Windows visual (class: StaticGray, depth: 0).

Substituting default (class: <UndefinedVisual>, Depth: 0).

% Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

> 2) machine and operating system (and version) - if you  
> are running Linux, I'd need to know the graphics card  
> you are using.

I've been coming accross this problem on two different Linux systems and one SunOs. One of the Linux computers is just a PC and says it has a generic graphics device. It runs version RedHat 6.0. Another Linux PC I tried runs RedHat 6.1 and also says it has a generic graphics device but also says it uses device "Matrox|MGA G200 AGP [Millennium] AGP".

>  
> 3) the specific error message you get when you try  
> device,decomposed=0

>

```
IDL> device,decomposed=0
% Unsupported X Windows visual (class: StaticGray, depth: 0).
  Substituting default (class: <UndefinedVisual>, Depth: 0).
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

> Another thing you might want to do is to try these  
> commands first thing after starting IDL - I have them  
> in my startup file:

These didn't work either.

```
> device,true_color=24
```

It will display the image, but not in the specified color table.

```
> window,/FREE,/PIXMAP,colors=-10,xsize=10,ysize=10
> wdelete,!d.window
> device,decomposed=0,retain=2
> device,get_visual_depth=depth
> print,'Display depth: ', depth
> print,'Color table size: ', !d.table_size
```

First of all, I don't get errors only when I start off with the  
device,true\_color=24 or pseudo\_color=16. The errors I get are:  
% Unsupported X Windows visual (class: StaticGray, depth: 0).  
 Substituting default (class: <UndefinedVisual>, Depth: 0).  
% Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

> in IDL that attempts to display what you want but fails,  
> you can send that along, including a description of what  
> went wrong.  
>

Here is a demonstration:

```
image = Congrid(Dist(200), !D.X_Size, !D.Y_Size)
device,true_color=24
loadct, 11
tv,image
```

I get this:

```
IDL> image = Congrid(Dist(200), !D.X_Size, !D.Y_Size)
% Compiled module: DIST.
% Compiled module: CONGRID.
IDL> device,true_color=24
IDL> loadct, 11
```

```
% Compiled module: LOADCT.  
% Unsupported X Windows visual (class: TrueColor, depth: 24).  
  Substituting default (class: TrueColor, Depth: 16).  
% Compiled module: FILEPATH.  
% LOADCT: Loading table BLUE-RED  
IDL> tv,image
```

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