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Subject: Re: Color Problems in IDL for Linux (Gnome)

Posted by [nobody@nowhere.com](mailto:nobody@nowhere.com) (S on Tue, 31 Jul 2001 14:52:07 GMT)

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On Sun, 29 Jul 2001 09:24:45 +0200, Reimar Bauer <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> wrote:

> Sean Davis wrote:

>>

>> Craig Markwardt wrote:

>>

>>> Sean Davis <sdavis@nis.lanl.gov> writes:

>>> [reformatted for the bleary-eyed]

>>>> Well, I know we have all struggled with colors in IDL at one point

>>>> or another, but I am currently having a problem which is beyond the

>>>> usual frustrations people have with colors in IDL.

>>>>

>>>> Essentially, when I make a plot, the colors are in black and white

>>>> until i click on the upper-bar of the window that i'm interested

>>>> in seeing. Then, if there are any colors, the will be shown only as

>>>> long as my mouse is over the window of interest!!!

>>>>

>>>> This seems like a flaw in Gnome, because I can re-login using the

>>>> FVWM window manager and everything works fine.

>>>

>>> The answer may be that (a) you have an 8-bit display; and (b) Gnome

>>> uses up all of the colors in your color table, while FVWM does not.

>>> If your graphics card is capable, you may be able to investigate

>>> moving up to 24-bit, but you will need someone experienced in

>>> configuring your X-server. Don't choose 16-bit or you'll be sorry.

>>>

>>

>> Well, I do have 24-bit color so that rules that out. Maybe Gnome uses up all

>> of the colors, which still doesn't make

>> sense because the colors can be seen by me clicking on the window of

>> interest.

>>

>

> Dear Sean,

>

> how much colors do you really have by idl.

> Please show us !d.n\_colors.

>

> If you have only 256 colors then I belive you have some problems

> by your idl\_startup.

>

> regards

> Reimar

>

>

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> --
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>
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> http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html
> =====
>
> read something about linux / windows
> http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html
```

You can pre-set the colors idl uses in .Xdefaults, I believe. Also, Gnome is a desktop environment, not a window manager, last time I installed it. You must be using Enlightenment or BlackBox maybe? I use Gnome / Enlightenment currently (with IDL), I used to have to put a few lines like:

```
#idl.colors: 16777216 <----- note this is commented out!
idl.gr_depth: 24
idl.retain: 2
idl.gr_visual: TrueColor
```

in .Xdefaults to get color working in X w/idl (that was using AfterStep wm). Most important is idl.retain, which tells IDL to handle the window's backing-store, instead of the window manager. You may want to try that.

--  
Steve S.

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remove NOSPAM before replying