
Subject: Re: All I get is gray scale

Posted by [gary.hodgesREMOVE](#) on Thu, 31 Jan 2002 22:57:52 GMT

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David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote:

: Gary Hodges(gary.hodgesREMOVE@cires.colorado.edu) writes:

:> I've read through several historical "color" threads and even bought the book
:> (IDL Programming Techniques), but I'm still only able to plot gray scale.
:> I've just followed the "Drawing Line Plots in Color" on page 25 of the
:> Fanning book without success. The exact commands are (time and curve
:> are already defined):
:>
:> IDL> TVLCT, [70,255,0], [70,255,255], [70,0,0], 1
:> IDL> Plot, time, curve, Color=2, Background=1
:>
:> This produces a black plot window. To see anything I have to increase the
:> color value to ~50, with higher values producing progressively less gray
:> plots. I gather this goes against what I'm trying to do with the above TVLCT
:> command, which is I understand things, to assign three RGB colors to indexes
:> 1, 2 and 3.
:>
:> I have also tried "IDL> Device, Decomposed=0" trick without success.

: Humm. I find this hard to believe. :-)

Me too!

: Did you try this *before* the two commands above?
: I presume you did.

Sure. I started with "Creating Line Plots" on page 20 even though I have a pretty good handle on that. I generated Figure 1, then skipped over to "Creating Your Own Plot Symbols." When the plot symbols didn't come out in color, I went to the next section to try and get my line to plot in color.

: Try this. Start IDL, open a window (use the Window command),
: the send us the contents of a Help, /Device command.
: Something is not right in Denmark.

IDL> help, /Device

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

Current graphics device: X

Server: X11.0, The XFree86 Project, Inc, Release 40100000

Display Depth, Size: 24 bits, (1600,1200)

Visual Class: DirectColor (5)

Bits Per RGB: 8 (8/8/8)

Physical Color Map Entries (Used / Total): 256 / 256

Colormap: Private, 16777216 colors. Translation table: Bypassed
Graphics pixels: Combined, Dither Method: Ordered
Write Mask: 16777215 (decimal) ffffff (hex)
Graphics Function: 3 (copy)
Current Font: <default>, Current TrueType Font: <default>
Default Backing Store: Req from Server.
Window Status: -----
id typ(x, y, backing store) id typ(x, y, backing store)
0: Win(640, 512, Req from Server)

:> Curiously, if I move the plot window on the desktop I get a horizontal pink
:> and pink bar stretching across the screen.

: Yes, quite curious. I have no idea what it might mean.

I think this is probably a Linux/X issue, and not IDL. I tried adding the
TRUE_COLOR=24 that was suggested by Ralf, and while it didn't change much, if
I move the plot window on the screen the plot appears in color. That is,
while the plot window is being moved, the colorful plot appears. Along with
that pink/pink horizontal bar.

Cheers,
Gary
