Subject: Re: color problems
Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 20 Feb 2002 01:13:46 GMT
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Patrick McEnaney (patrick@es.ucsc.edu) writes:

> I'm working with a fairly large array of oceanographic data [30,501].
> This is one of the smaller examples actually. Anyway, I'm plotting the
> data with a simple contour statement:
>
>
> contour,z, /cell_fill,zrange=[0,1], xstyle=1, ytitle='Depth(m)', $
> title='ORCAS Time Series Light Scattering Plot', $
> xtitle='Time (Julian Day)', nlev=200, yrange=[15,0], $
> min_value=0, max_value=1, background=0, position=[0.15, $
>   0.3,0.9,0.95], xtickname=[time(1:29)]
>
> after using the standard
>
> loadct, 38....
>
> My problem:
>
> Although the ranges are set very closely to the ranges of the data, I
> can't get the data to display in a range of colors. No matter which
> color table I use, the data almost always shows in just shades of red,
> with almost no texture even the the values are variable.
>
> Any suggestions? I've had numerous problems manipulating colors in idl
> in the past, it would be great to find a fix.

I'd try DEVICE, DECOMPOSED=0 for starters. Then I would
think really, really hard about whether I wanted to draw 200
contour lines on a contour plot (NLEVELS=200, as in your
code). You must have a REALLY big display!

There are a couple of articles on my web page that you
might find useful. I'd start here:

  http://www.dfanning.com/tips/nlevels.html

I'd also include a C_COLORS keyword so you get to
choose the colors, rather than IDL.

Cheers,

David

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