
Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 14:23:28 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

```
> I have a short program (posted below) to test 24-bit color.  On a 24-bit
> X-Windows display, it works as intended, blending red and green to get yellow.
>
> The printer device does not produce color output, however.  As evidenced
> by the xprinter.eps file filled with, e.g.
>
> ...
> 0.4 setgray
> gs np 325.44 176.88 t 325.44 176.88 lo 331.68 176.88 ...
>
> (also by opening xprinter.eps in Illustrator and Ghostview).
>
> Any ideas?
>
> Many thanks, Ken Bowman
>
> PRO TEST24, PRINT = print, VERBOSE = verbose
>
> IF KEYWORD_SET(print) THEN BEGIN
>   entry_device = !D.NAME
>   SET_PLOT, 'PRINTER'
>   DEVICE, /TRUE_COLOR
> ENDIF
> !P.BACKGROUND = 255 + 256*(255 + 256*255)           ;White background
>
> n = 1000L
> x = RANDOMU(seed, n)                                ;Random numbers [0, 1]
> y = RANDOMU(seed, n)                                ;Random numbers [0, 1]
> r = LONG(255*x)                                     ;Red proportional to x
> g = LONG(255*y)                                     ;Green proportional to y
> b = REPLICATE(0B, n)                                ;No blue
>
> PLOT, [0,0], [1,1], /NODATA, COLOR = 0 + 256*(0 + 256*255) ;Blue axes
> PLOTS, x, y, PSYM=1, COLOR = r + 256*(g + 256*b)       ;Red-green-yellow points
>
> IF KEYWORD_SET(verbose) THEN BEGIN
>   HELP, /DEVICE
>   HELP, !D, /STRUCT
> ENDIF
>
> IF KEYWORD_SET(print) THEN BEGIN
>   DEVICE, /CLOSE
>   SET_PLOT, entry_device
```

```
> ENDIF  
>  
> END  
[stuff deleted]
```

I get the same result in IDL 5.5 for IRIX when I use the default PRINTER output device (Generic EPS). However if I select printer-specific output using

```
result = dialog_printersetup()
```

and select the 'HP Color LaserJet PS on FILE:', then I get 24-bit color output as expected. IDL remembers this setting via the `$HOME/.XprinterDefaults` file, so the next time I start IDL, this printer is the default when the PRINTER device is selected.

Cheers,
Liam.
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