Subject: Re: set_plot,'PS' and accurate colors? Posted by dave on Wed, 08 Jan 2003 21:02:55 GMT

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Mark Hadfield wrote:

- > "dave" <knapp@rtt.colorado.edu.NOSPAM> wrote in message
- > news:3E1C8321.655CD000@rtt.colorado.edu.NOSPAM...

>

- >> It's looking like IDL can't plot output graphics (PS, metafile etc) with
- > more than
- >> 256 colors ever, is that true?

>

- > It's true of the direct-graphics PS device. It's not true of the
- > direct-graphics METAFILE or PRINTER devices, both of which accept a
- > TRUE_COLOR keyword. (These statements are based on my reading of the manual.
- > I don't actually have any experience of creating direct-graphics plots with
- >> 256 colours.)

I tried the true_color keyword with "metafile" and cannot find a syntax that it won't compain about. Tells me true_color cannot be used with the metafile device.

>

- > Actually, it's not quite true of the PS device, in that you can end up with
- > more than 256 colours in a Postscript file by loading a colour table.
- > plotting, loading a different colour table, plotting. Do this n times and
- > you can have 256*n colours in the file.

Interesting thought, although I've coded this in a way that would make that difficult now.

And, of course, you can write true-colour images to bitmap formats like

> TIFF, JPG and PNG.

If I rewrite all my code to not make line plots but rewrite 2-d arrays, yes.