Subject: Re: Color table questions
Posted by Haje Korth on Fri, 20 Feb 2004 18:23:33 GMT
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Mike,
You should toss that rainbow colorbar if you do science. This color bar is highly non-linear to the human eye and you tend to emphasize features that a completely non-physical, but rather due to changes in the gradient of the color bar it self. I did actually some research on that a while ago. I found one article that illustrates the topic well:

B. E. Rogowitz and L. A. Treinish, How to NOT lie with visualisation, Computers in Physics, vol10, no 3, 1996. (Make sure you get a color copy, otherwise you will not be able to verify what the authors are talking about.)

The topic says it all: Pretty pictures alone do not guarantee good science! I am not trying to be arogant (not my nature), this is just a simple statement that I had to find out the hard way myself.

Greetings,
Haje

"Michael Wallace" <mwallace.removethismunge@swri.edu.invalid> wrote in message news:103ccjfi5gp198a@corp.supernews.com...
> A color table question for the color gurus....
>
> I want to use a color table like rainbow + white, except I need the
> colors to be spaced more evenly. The green section is very large and
> the yellow section is very small. People around here use that color
> table a lot because there are several different colors and there is a
> clean progression between colors, but I'm afraid that such a huge green
> section and such a small yellow section may be 'hiding' some of the
> nuances of my data. Of course, no color table is perfect, but I think
> it's possible to do better than what IDL provides. I'd like a smooth
> violet -> blue -> green -> yellow -> red progression but where each of
> the colors occupy approximately the same range. Anyone know of where I
> could find such a thing?
>
> -MikeW