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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:53:55 GMT  
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David Fanning writes:

```
> Philip Kershaw writes:
>
>> When I alter the colour table I re-display the image using
>>
>> TV, image, True=3
>
> Oh, the substituted TVIMAGE command should be this:
>
> TVIMAGE, image
>
> It can figure the "true" stuff out at the same time it is
> figuring out what kind of device it is on.
```

Oh, dear! Working too fast this morning. My mind is on finding more warm clothes around the house. :-(

Here is what I think is happening.

On UNIX machines, a true-color image is a true-color image. There is no color table involved whatsoever. (This is the way it *ought* to be, IMHO. I think it is Windows who is nuts.) A true-color image carries around its own color table, always! Otherwise, what would be the point?

Of course, this makes it more difficult to deal with color tables, but there really is no *point* to a color table with a true-color image. If you want to work with color tables, use 2D images. If you insist on working with true-color images, then you will have to create your own true-color image from the color table in question:

```
TVLCT, r, g, b, /Get
myimage[*,*,0] = r[myimage[*,*,0]
myimage[*,*,1] = g[myimage[*,*,1]
myimage[*,*,2] = b[myimage[*,*,0]
TV, myimage, True=3
```

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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