
Subject: Re: xmanager, /managed

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Fri, 08 Jul 2005 12:11:10 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Benjamin Hornberger writes:

>

>> I should mention that besides keeping track of colors in the GUI
>> program, as David recommends in his book, I also try not to mess with
>> the command line's color vectors and decomposition state. Even while
>> the widget program is running, I want to be able to quickly tvscl
>> another array from the command line with a nice b-w color table
>> rather than the GUI's color table with some plot line colors loaded
>> at the top. Unfortunately, the code becomes quite ugly. Maybe object
>> graphics is the way to go, but I haven't had the time to learn that.

>

>

> Object graphics would certainly solve your problem (as
> well as putting your marriage at risk with the months you
> will spend learning it), but it seems like overkill to me.

Well, there's no marriage to put at risk yet, but wanting to graduate in
a reasonable time ... After all, you don't get a PhD for beautiful code
(at least not in my field).

> I think your main problem is all those damn TV commands.
> That is what is causing you so much pain. You have to live
> in an 8-bit environment in a 24-bit world. I would set that
> DECOMPOSED keyword permanently to 1 and get a sensible
> replacement for TV (TVIMAGE, TVSCALE, IMGDISP, PLOTIMAGE). I've
> lived for nearly two years now neither knowing or caring much
> about my color decomposition state. (Except for filled
> contour plots, of course. Sigh...)
>
> My advice is to write your programs so they are totally
> indifferent to the DECOMPOSED keyword. Life is *much*
> simpler that way. :-)

There's two things:

1. The widget program has to use indexed color mode (decomposed=0)
because I want to be able to use those pretty predefined color tables.
Or are you telling me one can do that with decomposed color as well?
Also, I am using the same code for screen and PS output ...

2. In my programs, I am trying to handle colors properly and use
tvimage. However, when using the command line, things have to be quick.

And "tvscl, array" can be typed much faster than "tvimage, bytscl(array), /tv". Yes, I could write a wrapper, but even that doesn't help if I am in decomposed=0 mode and some program loaded extra colors somewhere in the color table. Maybe decomposed=1 is the way to go on the command line -- usually, I don't need fancy color tables in that case.

Benjamin
