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Subject: Re: staying away from color indices 0, and 255?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 01 Feb 2006 19:46:48 GMT  
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savoie@nsidc.org writes:

- > I understand that the 0th index gets changed often. But why is it a good
- > reason to stay away from index 255?
- >
- > I ask, because I've always reserved the top 16 colors for myself and done
- > scaling and loadct, etc, into the remaining locations, and before I rewrite
- > that code, I thought I'd see how dire it's going to be.
- >
- > So can anyone enlighten me on this?

I don't know. I've been working with IDL for so long, and I've developed so many "rules of thumb" I can't even remember what they are all about anymore. :-(

I'm guessing that if you don't follow this one you will probably, sooner or later, end up drawing white on white in PostScript. It's beautiful, very chic, but not good for that Nature article you had been planning. :-)

Cheers,

David

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