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Subject: Re: IDL w/ 12-bit grayscale?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 2006 14:22:37 GMT

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Mike Chinander writes:

> Does anyone have experience using IDL to display 12-bit grayscale images on hardware that  
> supports it while maintaining full bit-depth of the images? I'm using IDL on Linux and one  
> of the available X11 visuals is GrayScale with depth 12. I used .Xdefaults settings to  
> force IDL to use this visual. TVSCL works but using the /words keyword with TVSCL results  
> in the error that the hardware doesn't support 16-bits per pixel and would sometimes crash  
> the X server.

TVSCL!? Doesn't that sort of defeat the whole purpose of having 12-bit values? I would have thought a TV of integer data, scaled into the range of 0 to  $2^{12}$  (4096) would be something your 12-bit hardware would like.

> It seems the hardware must actually take 16-bits per pixel even though the  
> depth resolution is only 12-bits.

I would hope so, or you are going to have to write your own LIXUX kernel, too, probably. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

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