
Subject: Re: 8-bit Postscript problem (Will IDL and color Postscript *ever* get along?)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Jul 2006 12:17:46 GMT

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M. Kelly writes:

> Hello, I know this subject has (had) come up many times for over a
> decade, and from what I can
> tell on this newsgroup, seemed to be worked out to a great extent by
> say 2004.
>
> My problem is a 'classic' (?) where color postscript output is only 16
> colors. That is, I'm
> trying to make a Postscript color image, but I get 'blocky' colors -
> i.e., only 16 of them.
>
> But the twist (or me missing something) is that
> 1) I am using David Fanning's flexible TVIMAGE program (thanks!
> great prog btw),
> and
> 2) I explicitly set DEVICE, BITS=8, COLOR=1, ENCAPSULATED=1 after
> doing SET_PLOT,'ps'.
>
> A curious thing, though: using Fanning's COLORBAR program produces
> 256-color output on the
> Postscript plot, so the bar looks nice and the plot is
> crude/blocky/pixelly/ick. Also, doing a LOADCT
> after setting to PS output does not help.
>
> Could anyone help or offer any suggestions for this seemingly
> ancient/solved problem?

Humm. If everything is as you say it is, and COLORBAR works correctly, then I would say the problem is with your image. Does your program work correctly on your display? I would guess your image is not byte scaled, from the available evidence. (I would like to see the code, however.)

Cheers,

David

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