
Subject: Re: IDL Colorbar generation question
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 04 Jul 2006 09:15:30 GMT
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britneys@ucla.edu writes:

> I am attempting to add colorbars to my data plots. I have a set of
> self-defined colors that are used in my routine, saved to the standard
> R_CURR, G_CURR and B_CURR arrays. I had been trying to use either the
> IDLgrColorbar_define program or David Fanning's colorbar_define.
>
> Using IDLgrColorbar_define as prescribed:
>
> oColorbar =OBJ_NEW("IDLgrColorbar", [R_CURR, G_CURR, B_CURR],
> SHOW_AXIS=1, Title='values', HIDE=0)
>
> The colorbar is nowhere to be found in my window. Have I missed an
> element of the call?

Humm. These two colorbar routines belong to two completely different graphics systems in IDL. These systems cannot be combined with one another. I **presume** you are using the direct graphics system (PLOT, CONTOUR, SURFACE, etc.) If so, you will NEVER see IDLgrColorbar in your window, since it uses the object graphic system.

Tell us what system you used to draw your plots, and we can advise you more sensibly.

> Additionally, I am wondering two things about colorbar_define: 1) how
> can I use my self-defined color vectors in this routine (or can I?) 2)
> is there any change I should make so that the colorbar remains
> high-quality in a ps-output?

If you are talking about one of my colorbar routines, they both use the colors loaded in the current color table. These are set with the NCOLORS and BOTTOM keywords, which are used in exactly the same way as the same keywords for LOADCT. Nothing is **ever** required with my direct graphics routines to get high-quality PS output. :-)

> Thanks in advance for any guidance, or suggestions of other ways I can
> make an easy color bar. Earlier topics have been helpful to progress
> but I've been unable to fix these specifics.

In general, for direct graphics output, something like this works reasonably well:

Window

LoadCT, 33, NColors=16, Bottom=1

Colorbar, NColors=16, Bottom=1, Divisions=1, XTickLen=1

Cheers,

David
