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

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 11 Jul 2006 18:07:33 GMT

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M-K writes:

```
> Oddly, doing
> set_plot, 'ps' & !P.Font=0
> DEVICE, BITS_PER_PIXEL=8, COLOR=1, FILE=fnam, $
>       /ENCAPS, XSIZE=7, YSIZE=4, /INCHES
> Help, /DEVICE
>
> confirms 8 bits per pixel; the output is:
>
> Current graphics device: PS
>   Mode: Portrait, Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Enabled
>   Output Color Model: RGB
>   ... { offset, size, preview stuff here, Scale Factor is 1 }
> ...
>   Font: Helvetica   TrueType Font: <default>
>   # bits per image pixel: 8
>   Font Mapping: ...
>
> So somehow the colorbar output is nice, but the TVImage output
> is pixelly or not enough colors, despite BITS_PER_PIXEL=8.
> Could there be a pixel scaling problem with Postscript?
```

If there is, it would be the first time I've ever heard of it.  
I'll be honest, I am completely mystified. I guess the only thing to try now is prayer, with maybe a histogram plot of the data you are trying to display as an image to see if there is something wrong there. But it looks to me like you are doing all the right things. Strange... PostScript is always ultra reliable. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

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