Subject: Re: A defense of decomposed color
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 06 Nov 2006 18:17:42 GMT
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JD Smith writes:

> Though color tables are stone-age tools, now I can simply:
>
> a) Set up a color table with N image colors and N_max-N "system" or
>   plotting colors.
>
> b) Reload that color table on enter events.
>
> c) Plot and/or display whenever, wherever, without having to futz the
>   color model beforehand.
>
> Obviously, this requires a device,decomposed=0 in the startup file
> (which is simply documented), but it saves considerable time and
> trouble. The drawback is, of course, different tools have different
> conventions, and you always end up with conflicts.

I think you are right about this, if loading color
tables is faster than changing color models (I haven't
run the tests), and you don't work with true-color images
(so you don't run into differences between Windows and UNIX),
and you can guarantee you are always using the indexed color
model.

I think my motivation for the "don't give a damn WHAT
color model you are using" solution I dreamed up is
having to teach the subject to people who (I swear
to God!) are *never* in the proper color model to see
on their display what I see on mine. 45 minutes of
a class can go by just trying to get everyone to see
the same yellow color I do. :-(

With TVImage and FSC_Color I can at least move along
to more interesting things and everyone moves along
with me. :-)

I think the bottom line is that if you know what you
are doing, any solution that gives you consistent
results is a good solution. If you don't know what
you are doing, some solutions are obviously superior
to others.

Cheers,

David

P.S. And with respect to "knowing what you are doing",
I will admit that even after doing this for nearly
20 years I can *still* run into color results in
IDL courses that completely baffle me and which I
can't explain. Coyote and his tricks *always* comes
to the rescue in times that these. :-)

--
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")