
Subject: Re: IDL plotting query - how can I get rid of unwanted colour for a particular data value???

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 01 May 2008 17:20:37 GMT

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Vince Hradil writes:

> a clever use if "where()" comes to mind...

Well, with an intelligent use of BYTSCL, too. :-)

Image pixels, no matter what they are *have* to be displayed. No getting around it.

If you don't want certain pixels to "mean" anything, then what is typically done is to assign those pixels the same value as the background color.

This assumes you know how to reserve certain colors for the image and certain colors for the background. Something like this should work:

```
Window, XSIZE=400, YSIZE=400
Loadct, 13, NCOLORS=250
TVLCT, 255, 255, 255, 251 ; White background color.
TVLCT, 0, 0, 0, 252 ; Black drawing color.
image = dist(400)
image [10:50, 300:350] = -999
badpixels = Where(image EQ -999)
Device, Decomposed=0, Get_Decomposed=theState
Erase, COLOR=251
pos = [0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.75]
scaled = BytScl(image, TOP=249, MIN=0, MAX=max(image))
scaled[badpixels] = 251
TVImage, scaled, Position=pos, /KEEP_ASPECT
Colorbar, NCOLORS=250, AnnotateColor='black', $
    Position=[0.1, 0.85, 0.9, 0.9]
Device, decomposed=theState
END
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

