Subject: Re: Why postscript colors are same as screen?
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 10 May 2010 11:58:44 GMT

Mrunmayee writes:

> I have an array, say data[311,550]. It contains only 0's and 1's and I
> am trying to display it. When I use
> IDL> tvscl, data
> I get output on the screen with 0's painted with black and 1's with
> white. Exactly what I want. When I do
> IDL> set_plot,'ps'
> IDL> tvscl, data
> IDL> device,/close & set_plot,'x'
> I get output - again 0's are painted black and 1's are painted white.
> I thought, the default color table is reversed when we plot in
> postscript. Which is why plot is balck-background-white-foreground on
> screen but reversed in postscript. But that's not what I am getting
> here. Am I missing something here? When it comes to images, I am very
> very unskilled.

The PostScript color table isn't reversed. It only
acts as if it were reversed in certain circumstances,
of which this isn't one of them.

Cheers,

David

P.S. In case you were wondering, the PostScript device
is designed as a test. If the novice IDL programmer
can overcome its inconsistencies to produce a plot that
is even just a reasonable facsimile to what they expected
to get, the programming gods will allow you to proceed
to the next level of the game, which is understanding
the colors used in filled contour plots. :-)

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