
Subject: Notable Coyote Program Updates

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 23 Nov 2010 15:41:20 GMT

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Folks,

As some of you have probably realized, I'm in the process of completely refurbishing my Coyote Library. This is what happens when you start writing a book. Explaining how something works gives you a MUCH better idea of how something **ought** to work!

The work is on-going and probably won't be completely finished until early next year. But I wanted to give you a heads-up on a couple of notable changes today.

I have made the TVScale command completely obsolete by moving all the unique TVScale functionality over to TVImage. This means you can scale images on the fly with TVImage using the "normal" scaling keywords: MinValue, MaxValue, Bottom, Top, and NColors.

I particularly like the NCOLORS and BOTTOM keywords together, because you can immediately scale image data into, say, 12 colors like this:

```
IDL> LoadCT, 33, NColors=12, Bottom=1
IDL> TVImage, image, NColors=12, Bottom=1
```

Pretty neat. :-)

There is also a conflict in IDL 8 with the old IDL ARROW program, which is still in the IDL lib directory. This conflicts with the ARROW function, which is in the lib/graphics directory. If you want to use the **old** ARROW program, you need to name it something else. Since I was renaming it, and since I wanted to add additional functionality to it, including making it machine and color mode independent, I just decided to do it right, so I've named this FSC_Arrow and put it in the Coyote Library.

Finally, I have replaced ZPLOT and ZIMAGE, which provide interactive zooming into line plots and images, respectively, with FSC_ZPlot and FSC_ZImage. These new programs are device and color independent, and FSC_ZImage now works with both 2D and True-Color images. Plus, it works correctly with images that are very, very

large and wouldn't fit on your display.

I've made other small changes to the new FSC_*** series of programs to make sure color variables don't change data type as a result of program manipulation.

I appreciate the feedback from people who are using these programs. They are getting pretty darn good, if I do say so myself. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
