
Subject: Re: colors and plot direct graphics function
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 23:57:45 GMT
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bing999 writes:

> I switched from idl 7 to 8.2 recently, and start using direct graphics
> for plotting purposes.
>
> To plot in colors in idl 7, I used to do:
> loadct,39
> plot,x,y,color=250
> for a red line.
>
> With direct graphics I can do:
>
> p=plot(x,y,AXIS_STYLE=0,\$
> XRange=[0,30],YRange=[0,30],color='red')
>
> But is there a way to load a color table and use a single number value
> (e.g. 250 for red) for colors instead of a string with the plot
> function?
>
> I find it convenient to use that when you want to overplot many curves
> of different colors in a for loop for instance.
>
> I couldn't find this tip in the IDL help...

It appears you have actually switched to function graphics,
which use the object graphics system, not the direct graphics
system.

If you wanted to stay with direct graphics, and still
have nearly all the advantages of a modern graphics
system, you could try Coyote Graphics:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics_tips/coyote_graphics.php

With Coyote Graphics, you would do this to get an equivalent plot:

```
LoadCT, 39  
cgPlot, cgDemoData(1), Color='250', XStyle=5, YStyle=5, /Window
```

Cheers,

David

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