
Subject: Transparent and Overplotted Images with cgImage
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 13 Jan 2013 20:08:07 GMT
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Folks,

I know some of you have been confused about transparent images and cgImage for some time. Earlier this week, I realized I was confused, about how things worked, too, when I wasn't able to overplot a LandSat image onto a larger image I had. I decided to get to the bottom of it and write an article that would explain it to all of us (but, to me especially).

The final result (written in moments of utter despair after a shattering loss by the Denver Broncos, the worst in Bronco history) required a couple of changes in cgImage. You can find the latest, updated version here:

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/cgimage.pro>

The accompanying article, with examples, can be found here:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/cg_tips/transimage.php

My strongest motivation for creating this functionality was to be able to locate LandSat images on top of other images so I can tell where they are and if the data makes sense. I can now do this easily and fully automatically if my images are stored in GeoTiff files, which mine are, simply by setting the OVERPLOT keyword.

If you have been confused about all this and the various keywords you can use to set transparent image properties, I think you will find the article worth reading. I know I do. ;-)

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.")
