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Subject: Re: Associating color-table with widget application  
Posted by [Phil Williams](#) on Mon, 28 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

>  
> David Foster <[foster@bial1.ucsd.edu](mailto:foster@bial1.ucsd.edu)> writes:  
>  
>> The problem is simple: in a widget application, I want the widget to  
>> load its own color-table whenever the cursor is "in" the application,  
>> and load a pre-existing color-table when the cursor is "out" of the  
>> application. Sounds easy right? Please tell me it is...what keyword  
>> did I miss this time?  
>>  
>> I tried using tracking events, but you get color-flashing whenever  
>> you leave one widget and enter another, even if you enable tracking  
>> events for ALL widgets. If you enable tracking events for only the  
>> TLB, you lose your colors whenever you move into, say, a slider  
>> widget which adjust a plot which you really need to see in the  
>> correct colors...  
>  
> Hi David. I think you are right to be thinking about color "protection",  
> especially as we move into IDL 5 and an accessible command line  
> while widget programs are running. I've been giving this idea  
> a lot of thought, too. (See the new example programs that I  
> put I my web page overnight.)  
>  
> But I guess I don't fully understand the problem you are having.  
> I don't, for example, seem to have problems when I move into  
> a slider. Perhaps because I have been taking a different  
> approach. My idea is that each widget program ought to  
> "know" its own colors, but be unconcerned with everyone  
> else's colors. This way, when you enter a widget (via  
> tracking on the TLB or a draw widget [although tracking  
> on TLBs seems to be broken in the IDL 5 beta]) the widget  
> program can restore its colors. This is what I mean by  
> color protection.  
>  
> You necessarily have color flashing as you move from  
> one widget to another, since the various widgets  
> are using the same color indices, but I don't find it  
> annoying in the slightest. In fact, it is exactly what  
> I want!  
>  
> Anyway, perhaps an example of what you are struggling  
> with will help us find a solution.  
>  
> Cheers!

This is exactly what I do in my XDISPLAY program. I have one app that I can have as many as 10 XDISPLAYs opened and each has it's own color table. As the mouse moves into one XDISPLAY the LUT is updated w/ that colors and all the others follow.

If you need to have more than one LUT at a time then you need to split the color table. XDISPLAY can also do this (on a limited basis) by using "greyscale/color" mode.

see <http://www.irc.chmcc.org/idl/xdisplay.html> for more info.

Phil

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Phil Williams, Ph.D.

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Children's Hospital Medical Center "One man gathers what

Imaging Research Center another man spills..."

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