
Subject: Re: IDL 5.0 observations
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 03 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

P. Smith writes:

> By the way, I've seen info for getting colours tables set up if running in
> 24 bit mode. I haven't been able to do it for the 16 bit mode (65536
> colours) I run my display in Win95. Everthing plots in red, which is ok
> for line plots but I also need to produce colour contour plots.

Plotting in 16-bit mode is similar to plotting in 24-bit mode, except that instead of using 8-bits of a 24-bit value for each color, in 16-bit mode fewer bits are used. (I think it is 6 bits of red and 5 of blue and green, but I can't remember exactly. $64 \times 32 \times 32 = 65536$.)

I have a couple of articles on my web page that talk about 24-bit color, but the same principles apply to 16-bit color. There are also a number of programs to help you work in this color environment. For example, to draw a plot in yellow, you might type this in a 16-bit environment:

```
PLOT, data, Color=GetColor("yellow", /True)
```

(I just tried this in IDL 5 running on WindowsNT 4.0 and it didn't work! I got the plot in white, instead. I tried it in IDL 4.0.1 and it worked exactly as I expected it to work. I'm finding quite a few bugs in IDL 5, so I don't know what to make of this. I'll have to do more experimenting.)

Cheers,

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Customizable IDL Programming Courses
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com>
