Subject: Re: COLOR QUAN question

Posted by davidf on Wed, 18 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Daniel Peduzzi (peduzzi@mediaone.net) writes:

- > My question concerns the R, G, and B arrays returned by the COLOR QUAN
- > function. I've noticed that I don't receive the same RGB values if I call the function
- > multiple times with the same input arguments. This isn't very noticeable upon visual
- > inspection of the resulting images, unless the differences are exaggerated by color map
- > operations such as histogram equalization.

Oh, oh. Hold on here. I think we may be fooling ourselves a bit. First of all, in the examples that matter (Step 1 and Step 3) the first 31 colors are the gray scale colors of the images. They appear to be identical in both color tables. (I used my CINDEX program to view the color tables after I loaded them.) Moreover, the resulting 2D images only have values between 0 and 31, and \*they\* are identical.

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/cindex.pro

Notice that your differences start \*above\* the values that are really used in the images.

Although I can't really explain the differences that \*don't\* matter, I do note that the algorithm is a statistical method. To me this suggests some randomization may be involved to get some kind of "seed" or something. (I'm making this up, but I bet I'm right.)

Using a histogram equalization will certainly lead to strange results, because the color tables returned from COLOR\_QUAN are \*never\* continuous in color. A pixel value is assigned a particular color, but that color may be COMPLETELY different from the pixel with an adjacent value. There is no requirement, I don't think, that the same value be assigned the same color in two different instances. Only that the pixel values and the colors fairly represent the colors in the 3D image.

- > If I include the /MAP\_ALL keyword with each call to COLOR\_QUAN, the discrepancies
- > disappear. However, the documentation indicates that /MAP\_ALL should be used
- > only if /GET TRANSLATION is also present (which I don't think I need.)

> Should I expect to see the differences above, and is it safe to use the /MAP ALL

> keyword to eliminate those differences?

I really think the differences are a non-issue. Forget about the MAP\_ALL keyword and cheerfully use COLOR\_QUAN. :-)

Cheers.

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question
Posted by steinhh on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <37BC1A07.E6E4C022@ssec.wisc.edu> Liam Gumley <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> writes:

- > Have you looked at the ImageMagick API?
- > http://www.wizards.dupont.com/cristy/www/api.html

>

- > Seems like it could be interfaced to IDL by some enterprising
- > individual.

Sure, no problem, I think. Other than how to find the Time...

Speaking of time, I just wrote a DLM wrapper for the one of the functions in the FFTW library (Fastest Fourier Transform in the West see http://www.fftw.org), to do real->complex and complex->real transforms of some \*large\* datasets. Beats the native IDL FFT by factors of about 6 - 15 on my platform! Of course it only uses half the space, as well.... Ideal for convolving fltarrs with other fltarrs!

In the spirit of sharing etc... here follows the DLM file and the c code to be linked with the fftw libraries. This one only deals with single precision transforms, mind you... Although the library can be configured to produce both double and single precision code, it's a bit difficult to mix transforms for different types in one executable...

And no, I won't have time to answer questions about how to get this working on your computer... But as a hint, my link

```
statement includes "-lidl -lsrfftw -lsfftw -lc -lm".
Use: To convolve a=fltarr(m,n,...) with b=fltarr(m,n,...), do
this:
  result = rfftwnd(rfftwnd(a)*rfftwnd(b),(size(b))(1))
Bye for now.
Stein Vidar
rfftwnd.dlm-----
# $Id: rfftwnd.dlm,v 1.1 1999/08/16 10:59:04 steinhh Exp steinhh $
MODULE RFFTWND
DESCRIPTION N-dimensional Real fftw
VERSION $Revision: 1.1 $
BUILD DATE $Date: 1999/08/16 10:59:04 $
SOURCE S.V.H.HAUGAN
FUNCTION RFFTWND 12
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include "export.h"
#include "srfftw.h"
#define NULL_VPTR ((IDL_VPTR) NULL)
#define GETVARADDR(v) ((v->flags&IDL_V_ARR) ? (void*)v->value.arr->data \
  : (void*) &v->value.c)
#define GETVARDATA(v,n) ((v->flags&IDL_V_ARR) \
  ? (*(n) = v->value.arr->n elts, v->value.arr->vata) \
  : (*(n) = 1, \& v -> value.c))
FILE *rfftw wisdom file(char *mode)
 char *name;
 FILE *f;
 name=getenv("IDL_FFTW_WISDOM");
 if (name==(char*)NULL) {
  name = calloc(1024,sizeof(char));
```

```
if (name==(char*)NULL) return (FILE*) NULL;
  strncpy(name,getenv("HOME"),1023);
  strncat(name,"/.idl_rfftw_wisdom.",1024-strlen(name));
  qethostname(name+strlen(name),1024-strlen(name));
 f=fopen(name,mode);
 free(name);
 return f;
}
static char *wisdom=(char*)NULL;
void rfftw_init(void)
 FILE *f;
 static int done=0;
 if (done) return;
 done=1;
 f = rfftw wisdom file("r");
 if (f==(FILE*)NULL) {
  IDL_Message(IDL_M_NAMED_GENERIC,IDL_MSG_INFO,"Can't read wisdom file.");
  return;
 if (fftw import wisdom from file(f)!=FFTW SUCCESS) {
  IDL Message(IDL M NAMED GENERIC, IDL MSG INFO, "Bad wisdom data?");
 fclose(f);
 wisdom=fftw_export_wisdom_to_string();
 IDL_Message(IDL_M_NAMED_GENERIC,IDL_MSG_INFO,"Imported wisdom from file.");
}
void rfftw finish(void)
 FILE *f:
 static char *new wisdom;
 new_wisdom=fftw_export_wisdom_to_string();
 if (new_wisdom==(char*)NULL) return;
 if (wisdom!=(char*)NULL && !strcmp(wisdom,new_wisdom)) {
  fftw free(new wisdom);
  return;
```

```
}
 if (wisdom!=(char*)NULL) fftw_free(wisdom);
 wisdom=new_wisdom;
 f = rfftw wisdom file("w");
 if (f==(FILE*)NULL) {
  IDL_Message(IDL_M_NAMED_GENERIC,IDL_MSG_INFO,"Couldn't write wisdom file");
  return:
 fftw_export_wisdom_to_file(f);
 fclose(f);
 IDL_Message(IDL_M_NAMED_GENERIC,IDL_MSG_INFO,"Wrote wisdom to file");
/* Forward is REAL -> COMPLEX, use input dimensions for plan */
void rfftwnd_forward(IDL_VPTR in, IDL_VPTR out)
 fftw real *src;
 fftw complex *Fsrc;
 rfftwnd plan plan;
 rfftw_init();
 src = (fftw_real*) in->value.arr->data;
 Fsrc = (fftw_complex*) out->value.arr->data;
 plan=rfftwnd create plan(in->value.arr->n dim,in->value.arr->dim,
   FFTW_REAL_TO_COMPLEX,FFTW_MEASURE|FFTW_USE_WISDOM);
 rfftwnd_one_real_to_complex(plan,src,Fsrc);
 rfftwnd_destroy_plan(plan);
 rfftw_finish();
}
/* Backward is COMPLEX -> REAL, use OUTPUT dimensions for plan! */
void rfftwnd backward(IDL_VPTR in, IDL_VPTR out)
 fftw complex *src;
 fftw real *Fsrc;
 rfftwnd_plan plan;
 rfftw_init();
 src = (fftw complex*) in->value.arr->data;
 Fsrc = (fftw real*) out->value.arr->data;
```

```
plan=rfftwnd create plan(out->value.arr->n dim,out->value.arr->dim,
   FFTW_COMPLEX_TO_REAL,FFTW_MEASURE|FFTW_USE_WISDOM);
 rfftwnd_one_complex_to_real(plan,src,Fsrc);
 rfftwnd_destroy_plan(plan);
 rfftw_finish();
}
IDL_VPTR RFFTWND(int argc, IDL_VPTR argv[])
 int i=0; /* Note it's use in indexing argv[i++]
                                                     */
      /* This simplifies taking away extra arguments,
      /* typically those specifying the number of elements
      /* in input arrays (available as var->value.arr->n_elts) */
 IDL_VPTR a=argv[i++]; /* Input array */
 IDL VPTR odim=argv[i++], /* Output leading dim. for backward transform */
  call[1], /* For use when calling conversion routines */
  tmp;
 IDL_MEMINT dim[IDL_MAX_ARRAY_DIM], tmpi;
 int ndim, dir;
 char odimreq[]=
  "2nd arg (leading output dimension) required for backward transform";
 char odimwrong[]=
  "2nd arg (leading output dimension) has an inappropriate value";
 /* TYPE CHECKING / ALLOCATION SECTION */
 IDL_EXCLUDE_STRING(a);
 IDL_ENSURE_ARRAY(a);
 IDL_ENSURE_SIMPLE(a);
 ndim = a->value.arr->n dim; /* Shorthand */
 /* If we're doing a forward transform, convert to Float,
 /* if baclwards, convert to Complex, and make sure we have the leading */
 /* dimension size, and convert it to long
                                                         */
 call[0] = a;
 if (a->type!=IDL_TYP_COMPLEX && a->type!=IDL_TYP_DCOMPLEX) {
  dir = -1; /* We're doing a forward transform */
  a = IDL CvtFlt(1,call); /* May cause a to be tmp */
```

```
} else {
 /* Require 2 arguments */
 if (argc!=2) IDL_Message(IDL_M_NAMED_GENERIC,IDL_MSG_LONGJMP,odimreq);
 dir = 1: /* Backward transform */
 a = IDL_CvtComplex(1,call); /* May cause a to be tmp */
 IDL EXCLUDE UNDEF(odim); /* Output leading dimension */
 IDL ENSURE SIMPLE(odim);
 IDL EXCLUDE STRING(odim);
 IDL_ENSURE_SCALAR(odim);
 call[0] = odim;
 odim = IDL_CvtLng(1,call);
 /* Check validity of the output leading dimension */
 tmpi = 2*a->value.arr->dim[0] - odim->value.l;
 if (tmpi != 1 && tmpi != 2)
  IDL Message(IDL M NAMED GENERIC, IDL MSG LONGJMP, odimwrong);
 /* Give warning about overwritten input arg. */
 if (ndim>1 && !(a->flags&IDL V TEMP))
  IDL_Message(IDL_M_NAMED_GENERIC,IDL_MSG_INFO,"Input overwritten!");
}
/* Swap dimensions to row major */
for (i=0; i<ndim/2; i++) {
 tmpi=a->value.arr->dim[i];
 a->value.arr->dim[i] = a->value.arr->dim[ndim-i-1];
 a->value.arr->dim[ndim-i-1] = tmpi;
}
/* Copy dimensions */
for (i=0; i<a->value.arr->n dim; i++) dim[i] = a->value.arr->dim[i];
/* Correct dimensions - for allocation */
if (dir==-1) dim[ndim-1] = 2*(dim[ndim-1]/2+1);
         dim[ndim-1] = 2*dim[ndim-1]; /* Complex takes 2x FLOAT */
/* Storage for result */
IDL_MakeTempArray(IDL_TYP_FLOAT,a->value.arr->n_dim,dim,
  IDL_ARR_INI_INDEX,&tmp);
/* Correct output leading dimension - to make correct plan */
if (dir==1) {
 tmp->value.arr->n_elts /= tmp->value.arr->dim[ndim-1]:
```

```
tmp->value.arr->dim[ndim-1] = odim->value.l;
  tmp->value.arr->n_elts *= tmp->value.arr->dim[ndim-1];
 if (dir==FFTW_REAL_TO_COMPLEX) rfftwnd_forward(a,tmp);
 else
                     rfftwnd_backward(a,tmp);
 /* Swap dimensions back! */
 for (i=0; i<ndim/2; i++) {
  tmpi=a->value.arr->dim[i];
  a->value.arr->dim[i] = a->value.arr->dim[ndim-i-1];
  a->value.arr->dim[ndim-i-1] = tmpi;
  tmpi=tmp->value.arr->dim[i];
  tmp->value.arr->dim[i] = tmp->value.arr->dim[ndim-i-1];
  tmp->value.arr->dim[ndim-i-1] = tmpi;
 }
 i=0;
 if (a!=argv[i++]) IDL DELTMP(a);
 if (odim!=argv[i++]) IDL DELTMP(odim);
 if (dir==-1) {
  tmp->type = IDL_TYP_COMPLEX; /* Change type, halve the size */
  tmp->value.arr->dim[0] /= 2;
  tmp->value.arr->n_elts /= 2;
 } else {
 return tmp;
int IDL_Load(void)
 static IDL_SYSFUN_DEF func_def[] = {
  {(IDL_FUN_RET) RFFTWND,"RFFTWND",1,2}
 return IDL_AddSystemRoutine(func_def,TRUE,1);
```

Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question
Posted by Liam Gumley on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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## Struan Gray wrote:

- > Seriously though, I once asked RSI if they had considered writing
- > a routine to use Photoshop plug-ins. There are some good 3rd party
- > processing and masking tools that it would be very nice to be able to

- > use in IDL, as well file format translators and image capture hardware
- > like scanners and cameras. It would also be a good and relatively
- > safe way of interfacing to user-written compiled code. No joy, but
- > perhaps now they are becoming more PC-oriented it's time to try again.

Have you looked at the ImageMagick API? http://www.wizards.dupont.com/cristy/www/api.html

Seems like it could be interfaced to IDL by some enterprising individual.

Cheers, Liam.

--

Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley

Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question
Posted by Struan Gray on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning, davidf@dfanning.com writes:

- >> My wish list for IDL includes making it do everything
- >> Photoshop, Illustrator, Visual Basic, and MatLab can
- >> do.:-)

>

> Oh, did I mention Word and Powerpoint? Those too.

Don't forget that Lego robotics software.

Seriously though, I once asked RSI if they had considered writing a routine to use Photoshop plug-ins. There are some good 3rd party processing and masking tools that it would be very nice to be able to use in IDL, as well file format translators and image capture hardware like scanners and cameras. It would also be a good and relatively safe way of interfacing to user-written compiled code. No joy, but perhaps now they are becoming more PC-oriented it's time to try again.

Struan

Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question

## Posted by Daniel Peduzzi on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote in message ...

> Daniel Peduzzi (peduzzi@mediaone.net) writes:

>

- >> My question concerns the R, G, and B arrays returned by the COLOR\_QUAN
- >> function. I've noticed that I don't receive the same RGB values if I call the function
- >> multiple times with the same input arguments. This isn't very noticeable upon visual
- >> inspection of the resulting images, unless the differences are exaggerated by color map
- >> operations such as histogram equalization.

>

- > Oh, oh. Hold on here. I think we may be fooling ourselves
- > a bit. First of all, in the examples that matter (Step 1
- > and Step 3) the first 31 colors are the gray scale colors
- > of the images. They appear to be identical in both color
- > tables. (I used my CINDEX program to view the color tables
- > after I loaded them.) Moreover, the resulting 2D images
- > only have values between 0 and 31, and \*they\* are
- > identical.

>

Thanks...everything you said made perfect sense. However, I'm still a bit confused about the purpose of the COLORS keyword. In STEP 1-3 of my example, I specified COLORS=256 in each call to COLOR\_QUAN. As you pointed out, the digital values of each resulting image lie in the range [0,31]. If the COLORS keyword doesn't have any influence on the values in the image returned by COLOR\_QUAN, then what is it used for?

I guess I expected to see 256 entries in the output palette USED by the returned image.

Dan Peduzzi peduzzi@mediaone.net

Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question
Posted by davidf on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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- > My wish list for IDL includes making it do everything
- > Photoshop, Illustrator, Visual Basic, and MatLab can
- > do. :-)

Oh, did I mention Word and Powerpoint? Those too.

--

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Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question

Posted by davidf on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Struan Gray (struan.gray@sljus.lu.se) writes:

> My optimal solution? Use Photoshop. :-)

My wish list for IDL includes making it do everything Photoshop, Illustrator, Visual Basic, and MatLab can do. :-)

Cheers.

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: COLOR QUAN guestion

Posted by Struan Gray on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning, davidf@dfanning.com writes:

- > But, again, I'm not sure this is a big deal. Color\_Quan
- > is used to produce images that \*LOOK\* the same. That is
- > to say, it is a \*display\* routine, not a \*processing\*
- > routine.

It's not exactly a blight on my life, but I wanted to save GIFs in web-specific colour tables (those with colours that are 'safe' for a wide variety of displays). If COLOR\_QUAN had returned the 'correct' table, shuffling the colour indicies to get back the ordering of the web-specific table would have been a one-liner. As it is, you have to

step through the table looking for closest matches, and if you're going to do that you might as well do it from the start.

My optimal solution? Use Photoshop. :-)

## Struan

Subject: Re: COLOR\_QUAN question Posted by davidf on Thu, 19 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Struan Gray (struan.gray@sljus.lu.se) writes:

- > A while back someone asked for a way to force COLOR\_QUAN to use a
- > particular color table. I tried seeding it with a dummy image
- > containing 256 pixels and a simple ramp through the desired table,
- > hoping to use /MAP\_ALL and /GET\_TRANSLATION to force subsequent calls
- > to use the same colour map.

>

- I gave up because the colour map returned by the first call was
- > always different from that used to generate the dummy image. That is,
- > even if you feed COLOR\_QUAN an RGB image with only 256 pixels (which
- > it should be able to reproduce exactly with an 8-bit colour table) the
- > RGB values of the colour map it generates are different from the
- > pixels' RGB values.

I just tried a similar experiment. The image has 256 values (a 3D image constructed of a 2D image created like this: image2D = BytScl(Findgen(256)#Findgen(256))).

Oddly enough, the resulting 2D image has only 155 values. And even though the returned color tables differ in the pixel values above 154, they appear identical in those values from 0-154. The images \*appear\* identical on the display, though, of course, they can't be.

But, again, I'm not sure this is a big deal. Color\_Quan is used to produce images that \*LOOK\* the same. That is to say, it is a \*display\* routine, not a \*processing\* routine. Performing image processing steps on the resulting image, or using the pixel values to mean something, is just as big a mistake as using the byte values of any image on the display, rather than the original image data.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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- > There is no requirement, I don't think, that the
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## Struan