
Subject: Re: View 24-bit images

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Fri, 04 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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"Alvaro T." wrote:

> Thanks to both. Now I understand it. But I still have the same problem
> because I only have a matrix of, for example, 100x100 values with data
> from -32000 to 32000 (is that Long, Int...? I don't know...). Should I
> change the type data before draw it?
> Imagine that a guy send to you a 100x100 matrix with data from -32000 to
> 32000 values. How will you show it in the screen? I don't need show it in
> colors, only in grey levels.

Alvaro,

I think we're getting to the root of the problem now. When you said '24-bit' images in your original post, I assumed you meant a True Color image with red, green, and blue components. However I think you actually have a short or long integer array that you wish to display as a Pseudo Color image. Here are some tips:

(1) To find the type and size of the array, use 'help', e.g.

```
image = dist(256)  
help, image
```

(2) When reading from HDF files, IDL preserves the data type. So if the array was a short integer in the HDF file, it will be a short integer in IDL.

(3) Regardless of the type of your array (short, long, float, double), it must be scaled to byte values in order to be displayed as an image. If you wish to use built-in IDL commands for byte scaling, you can use either TVSCL or BYTSCL, e.g.

```
tvsc1, image  
tv, bytscl(image)
```

Both of these commands display a scaled version of your image, where the minimum to maximum array values are linearly mapped to byte image values in the range 0 to !D.TABLE_SIZE - 1. If you wish to select a certain data range in the input array, then BYTSCL accepts the MIN and MAX keywords, e.g.

```
tv, bytscl(image, min=0.0, max=125.0)
```

(4) IMDISP byte-scales the input array by default, either from minimum to maximum, or over a range you specify, e.g.

imshow, image
imshow, image, range=[0.0, 125.0]

IMDISP also offers a plethora of other advantages which you can read about at
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/imshow.html>

Cheers,
Liam.
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: View 24-bit images
Posted by [Alvaro](#) on Fri, 04 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Liam wrote:

> Just so we're talking about the same thing, True Color images must have
> dimensions of the form
> [3, NX, NY] or [NX, 3, NY] or [NX, NY, 3]
> where NX is the width of the image (number of columns), NY is the height of
the
> image (number of rows), and the dimension 3 refers to the red, green, and
blue
> image planes.

David Zwarg wrote:

> Try :
> tv,imagedata,/TRUE
> If you're dealing with a color image, it is typically a 3,x,y dimensioned
array. /true is how
> you view the three overlapping arrays together as a color image.

Thanks to both. Now I understand it. But I still have the same problem
because I only have a matrix of, for example, 100x100 values with data
from -32000 to 32000 (is that Long, Int...? I don't know...). Should I
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Alvaro, atarela@usc.es
University of Santiago de Compostela (SPAIN)

Subject: Re: View 24-bit images
Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Fri, 04 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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"Alvaro T." wrote:

```
> I' having problems about viewing 24-bit images.  
> I have got an image in HDF format. The data is stored as INT (from -32000 to  
> 32000) and use the HDF_... functions to get the image data. For viewing the  
> data in the screen, I use:  
>  
> TV, imagedata, Order=1  
>  
> but almost I can't see anythig!. So, I try:  
>  
> TVScl, imagedata, Order=1  
>  
> Now I can see the image, but only 256 colors (or grey levels), so I'm losing  
> bit values. Why?  
> I'm using Windows in 32-bits mode and IDL has: !D.N_Colors=16777216,  
> !D.Table_Size=256
```

Alvaro,

Just so we're talking about the same thing, True Color images must have dimensions of the form

[3, NX, NY] or [NX, 3, NY] or [NX, NY, 3]

where NX is the width of the image (number of columns), NY is the height of the image (number of rows), and the dimension 3 refers to the red, green, and blue image planes.

My IMDISP procedure does (IMHO) an excellent job of displaying True Color images or Pseudo Color images, e.g.

```
read_jpeg, filepath('rose.jpg', subdir='examples/data'), image  
imdisp, image  
imdisp, image, order=1
```

Check out <http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/imdisp.html>

Cheers,

Liam.

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: View 24-bit images

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 04 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Alvaro T. (atarela@usc.es) writes:

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> bit values. Why?
> I'm using Windows in 32-bits mode and IDL has: !D.N_Colors=16777216,
> !D.Table_Size=256
>
> Who can help me? I'm a bit "lost" with managing colors in IDL.
```

Set the TRUE keyword to reflect the interleaving of your 24-bit image. Something like this:

```
TV, imagedata, True=1
```

Or, just use my TVIMAGE program, which is smart enough to figure out if you have a 24-bit or 8-bit image and set the proper keywords, decomposed state, etc, etc. Saves you a LOT of coding to make the display of an image device independent. :-)

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/tvimage.pro>

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

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