Subject: Re: Window Background Posted by Med Bennett on Sat, 04 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Eric Kihn wrote:

> Hello all,

>

- > Since I got such a great response to my last post I thought I'd try one
- > more time. Thanks to JD I got the code running but now the
- > behaviour on Windows and Linux is different. On the Linux side my plot
- > window comes up with a white background, on the Windows side a black one.
- > Same code and version of IDL 5.3. Since I need the white BG I tried
- > !P.BACKGROUND = 255 on windows but no change.

>

> [code snipped]

I just do

erase,color='ffffff'x

and then

plot,whatever,color=some_other_color,/noer

This strikes me as totally inelegant but seems to work fine.

Subject: Re: Window Background Posted by eak on Mon, 06 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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David,

Well in that case I may have a problem...

From the windows command line I tried:

And I get a window with a black background. I'm using IDL 5.2 under NT.

I am actually able to work around this ok by using the fix posted by Med (Thanks)

erase,color='ffffff'x

And I suppose with a comment in the code I'll even know what's 6 months from now:).

I did notice that my Windows IDL is 5.2 and 5.3 under Linux. Anyway I'm mainly posting this to document a solution for other who might read the group.

Thanks,

BTW: Looking forward to the new book. I'm sure direct graphics solves all these problems:).

```
"David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.14706c829a8b0a16989c6c@news.frii.com...
> Eric Kihn (ekihn@ngdc.noaa.gov) writes:
>> Since I got such a great response to my last post I thought I'd try one=
>> more time. Thanks to JD I got the code running but now the=20
>> behaviour on Windows and Linux is different. On the Linux side my
plot=20
>> window comes up with a white background, on the Windows side a black
one=
>> .
>> Same code and version of IDL 5.3. Since I need the white BG I tried=20
>> !P.BACKGROUND =3D 255 on windows but no change.
> What you really should be doing here is setting the background
> color value to the index of the white color in the color
> vectors you are using. You loaded a white color into index
> 0. So your code should look like this:
>
   TVLCT, r, g, b
   !P.Background = 0
>
> *Then* if you don't get what you are looking for,
> you might have other problems.
> I tend to prefer to ask for colors by name. I have
```

```
> recently upgraded some of the color tools on my
> web page to recognize 88 different colors by name.
> (I even added the capability of adding your own
> color names and values as a color value file.) The
> advantage of this method is that it *always* gives
> me the correct color on all machines and in any
> color decomposition state (if I am using IDL 5.2 or
> higher where I can tell what the color decomposition
> state is).
>
> For example, if I want to create background, axes, and
  data plotting colors, I would write my code like this:
>
    axisColor = FSC_COLOR("Green", !D.Table_Size-2)
>
    backColor = FSC_COLOR("Charcoal", !D.Table_Size-3)
>
    dataColor = FSC_COLOR("Yellow", !D.Table_Size-4)
>
    Plot, Findgen(11), Color=axisColor, Background=backColor, /NoData
>
    OPlot, Findgen(11), Color=dataColor
>
>
 This works for all machines in any color decomposition space.
>
> In addition to FSC COLOR, the new program PICKCOLORNAME will
> allow the user to interactively select a new color name for
  use with FSC_COLOR:
>
>
    : Set new data color.
>
>
    datacolor = PickColorName("Yellow")
>
    data = Reverse(Findgen(11))
>
    OPLOT, data, Color=FSC_COLOR(datacolor, !D.Table_Size-4)
>
> To see a list of the 88 colors available, type this:
>
   IDL> Print, FSC_COLOR(/Names)
>
>
> Or, to see an interactive list of the color names and
> the actual colors:
>
    IDL> color = PickColorName('dark gray')
>
>
> You can find the programs here:
>
    http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_color.pro
>
    http://www.dfanning.com/programs/pickcolorname.pro
>
>
> Cheers,
> David
```

> --

- > David Fanning, Ph.D.
- > Fanning Software Consulting
- > 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

Subject: Re: Window Background

Posted by davidf on Mon, 06 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Eric Kihn (ekihn@ngdc.noaa.gov) writes:

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- > =20
- > more time. Thanks to JD I got the code running but now the=20
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What you really should be doing here is setting the background color value to the index of the white color in the color vectors you are using. You loaded a white color into index 0. So your code should look like this:

TVLCT, r, g, b !P.Background = 0

Then if you don't get what you are looking for, you might have other problems.

I tend to prefer to ask for colors by name. I have recently upgraded some of the color tools on my web page to recognize 88 different colors by name. (I even added the capability of adding your own color names and values as a color value file.) The advantage of this method is that it *always* gives me the correct color on all machines and in any color decomposition state (if I am using IDL 5.2 or higher where I can tell what the color decomposition state is).

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backColor = FSC_COLOR("Charcoal", !D.Table_Size-3)
dataColor = FSC_COLOR("Yellow", !D.Table_Size-4)
Plot, Findgen(11), Color=axisColor, Background=backColor, /NoData
OPlot, Findgen(11), Color=dataColor
```

This works for all machines in any color decomposition space.

In addition to FSC_COLOR, the new program PICKCOLORNAME will allow the user to interactively select a new color name for use with FSC_COLOR:

; Set new data color.

```
datacolor = PickColorName("Yellow")
data = Reverse(Findgen(11))
OPLOT, data, Color=FSC_COLOR(datacolor, !D.Table_Size-4)
```

To see a list of the 88 colors available, type this:

```
IDL> Print, FSC_COLOR(/Names)
```

Or, to see an interactive list of the color names and the actual colors:

IDL> color = PickColorName('dark gray')

You can find the programs here:

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_color.pro http://www.dfanning.com/programs/pickcolorname.pro

Cheers.

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting

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