
Subject: Re: Write_bmp procedure changes RGB color order to BGR for input image

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

> The differences are, (a) we aren't paying you like \$2 billion for your
> software (much to your distress I'm sure);

I'd get over it though, if people would buy a book.

> and (b) RSI should be the bastions of IDL programming :-)

Yeah, and Microsoft should be the leader in software
Quality Control. :-)

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: Write_bmp procedure changes RGB color order to BGR for input image

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

> Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

>

>> The disappointment is that this lame code comes from RSI.

>

> Yikes! I'm going to go have another look at my lame code

> right now. :-(

The differences are, (a) we aren't paying you like \$2 billion for your
software (much to your distress I'm sure); and (b) RSI should be the
bastions of IDL programming :-)

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

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Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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sandeep.dalal@philips.com (Sandeep Dalal) writes:

...

>

> To my surprise, I discovered that using the RGB keyword in the IDL
> procedure "write_bmp" actually changes the color order of the supplied
> input image from RGB to BGR color order. This is non-intuitive. I
> would have expected that the keyword was only to indicate that the
> array is being supplied in the standard RGB color order. When IDL
> writes the file with the RGB keyword set, it should swap the red and
> blue buffers of the original image being written to the BMP file, but

```
> not swap them in the original image.  
>  
> For e.g.  
> IDL> img = read_image(some_true_color_image_file) ; in RGB color order  
> IDL> tv, img, /true ; looks good  
> IDL> write_bmp, filename.bmp, img, /rgb  
> IDL> tv, img, /true ; no good (:-(!
```

This is a classic error in IDL programming: a procedure modifying parameters that it shouldn't. A smart procedure takes great care not to modify its arguments.

The disappointment is that this lame code comes from RSI.

By the way this doesn't appear in IDL 5.0 or 5.2, so it's a new addition.

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
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