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Subject: Re: interactive color changes within a procedure

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 08 Mar 2001 03:52:39 GMT

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Laura Woodney (woodney@encke.astro.umd.edu) writes:

- > Once upon a time you could place a call to XLoadCT inside a
- > procedure so that when it ran, the color table widget would pop
- > up, you could play with the color table of an image being displayed,
- > then when you were done, you could close the widget and the program
- > would then continue on its merry way.

Well, once upon a LONG time ago. :-)

- > Then RSI messed with XLoadCT
- > and this no longer worked: the color table widget would pop up, but
- > the program would continue on it's merry way and not give you a chance
- > to play with your color tables. Fortunately, the old version of
- > XLoadCT still worked and could be placed in my path in front of the
- > current RSI version.
- >
- > Now here's the latest twist. My new display is 24-bit color, so I
- > want to start using David Fanning's XColor widget for playing with
- > my color tables. However, I can't figure out how to stop and
- > interactively play with the color stretch while inside a procedure.
- > Since I now live in a 24-bit world, the old solution of using XLoadCT
- > from vintage IDL doesn't work either.

The problem, in a word, is that you need to use the BLOCK keyword, with either XLOADCT or XCOLORS. Having said this, I'm embarrassed to tell you that it doesn't work with XCOLORS. :-( At least not in the version you are using. You can download a version that *does* work here:

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

To tell you the truth, I have never used XCOLORS with the BLOCK keyword, and apparently never tested the keyword after I wrote it. Sorry about that.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say I've never used the MODAL keyword either, but I'm supremely confident it works as advertised. :-)

--

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

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Subject: Re: interactive color changes within a procedure  
Posted by [woodney](#) on Thu, 08 Mar 2001 18:58:47 GMT  
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davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

- > Laura Woodney (woodney@encke.astro.umd.edu) writes:
- >> Once upon a time you could place a call to XLoadCT inside a
- >
- > Well, once upon a LONG time ago. :-)

I did say it was a vintage program! :) There are a few dinosaurs lurking in my IDL directories. If RSI ever decides to enforce things like the "new" distinction for () and [] - my whole world will start crashing.

- > The problem, in a word, is that you need to use the BLOCK
- > keyword, with either XLOADCT or XCOLORS. Having said this,
- > I'm embarrassed to tell you that it doesn't work with XCOLORS. :-(
- > At least not in the version you are using. You can download
- > a version that \*does\* work here:
- >
- > <http://www.dfanning.com/programs/xcolors.pro>

It works great now - thanks!

-Laura

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|Dr. Laura M. Woodney  
|Lowell Observatory  
|Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
|woodney@lowell.edu

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|Laura M. Woodney  
|Lowell Observatory  
|1400 W. Mars Hill Rd. |  
|Flagstaff, AZ 86001 new e-mail: woodney@lowell.edu|

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Subject: Re: interactive color changes within a procedure  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 08 Mar 2001 22:25:32 GMT  
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woodney@encke.astro.umd.edu (Laura Woodney) writes:  
> I did say it was a vintage program! :) There are a few dinosaurs  
> lurking in my IDL directories. If RSI ever decides to enforce things  
> like the "new" distinction for () and [] - my whole world will start  
> crashing.

I still use round parenthesis for all my new programs! Thankfully, if  
the time ever comes for a switchover, there are some conversions  
programs available. [ The GSFC Astronomy Library I believe. ]

Craig

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: [craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu)  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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Subject: Re: interactive color changes within a procedure  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 08 Mar 2001 22:46:53 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt ([craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu)) writes:  
> I still use round parenthesis for all my new programs! Thankfully, if  
> the time ever comes for a switchover, there are some conversions  
> programs available. [ The GSFC Astronomy Library I believe. ]

Oh, you poor man! Yes, hopefully there will be  
some conversion programs available. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting  
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: [davidf@dfanning.com](mailto:davidf@dfanning.com)  
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Subject: Re: interactive color changes within a procedure  
Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Fri, 09 Mar 2001 14:54:51 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt wrote:  
> I still use round parenthesis for all my new programs!

For shame! Perpetuating a colossal syntax mistake.

COMPILE\_OPT STRICTARR

jd

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Subject: Re: interactive color changes within a procedure  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 09 Mar 2001 22:51:10 GMT  
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JD Smith <jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu> writes:

> Craig Markwardt wrote:  
>> I still use round parenthesis for all my new programs!  
>  
> For shame! Perpetuating a colossal syntax mistake.  
>  
> COMPILE\_OPT STRICTARR

I prefer to call it "classic" syntax.

My putative reason was for compatibility with IDL 4, but this reasoning is slowly dissipating now.

Craig

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