
Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by [Sean Dettrick](#) on Tue, 23 Apr 2002 20:35:15 GMT
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This is an age-old problem. The solution is in www.rsinc.com in the tech-tips section. Search for "flashing".

Sean Dettrick

Amar Nayegandhi wrote:

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> Hi,
> I have a problem using a color table on Red Hat Linux 7.1. I have
> downloaded the patch available at the rsinc website to resolve the
> striping effect, but there is one more problem.
> Any image that I display (for e.g. with a plot/plots command), shows up
> in black and white. When I call xloadct or annotate and place my mouse on
> the colorbar, I get flashing colors.
> What do I need to do to get rid of this problem? My graphics card
> supports 24-bit true (direct) color.
> Thanks in advance,
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> *****
> Amar Nayegandhi
> *****

Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by [Amar Nayegandhi](#) on Tue, 23 Apr 2002 21:42:51 GMT
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Thanks for your suggestion. I have read and implemented the solution for flashing colors available on the rsinc website, but that does not solve my problem.

My first problem is that any idl graphics appears grey level (at any value of loadct) UNLESS I have my mouse cursor positioned on the colorbar of xloadct or annotate functions. This itself is an odd behavior. My second problem is that when my mouse cursor is positioned on an 'active' colorbar (like the one displayed when running xloadct), I get flashing colors.

I would really like my graphics to be plotted with the colorbar I have already chosen and not after I place my mouse cursor on an 'active' colorbar. any help is appreciated.

thanks in advance,
amar

On Tue, 23 Apr 2002, Sean Dettrick wrote:

```
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Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by [Robert Stockwell](#) on Tue, 23 Apr 2002 21:51:46 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Amar Nayegandhi wrote:

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Do you have a device,true=24 statement in your startup?

I start with the following:

```
device,true=24  
device,retain = 2  
device,decomposed=0
```

Are you sure you are really in 24 bit color mode?

Cheers,
bob

Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by [Amar Nayegandhi](#) on Wed, 24 Apr 2002 18:10:17 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi,
Thanks for your suggestion. I think I now know what the problem was. I have this "32-bit" Matrox G450 graphics card. Earlier, I had configured my X-display to 24/8bit, which I think meant that idl was working on an 8-bit set up while the rest of my screen was 24-bit (which might explain flashing colors *ONLY* when my mouse cursor was on an 'active' colorbar). I changed my X-display to 24-bit only, and with a startup file similar to the one below, I do get true colors.

Further, while I got those flashing colors, I was able to dump graphics from a current window to a tiff file. I cannot do that now. Which is my follow up question:

Is there any way in which I can write out a tiff file dumped from a window (using the write_tiff command) while I am in true color mode? If tvrd() will not work, is there any other way of doing it?

thanks in advance,

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On Tue, 23 Apr 2002, Robert Stockwell wrote:

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```
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Amar Nayegandhi

```
*****
```

Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by [Amar Nayegandhi](#) on Wed, 24 Apr 2002 18:26:51 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi,

I should do some reading myself before posting a question! `tvrd(true=1)` will be the answer to my question.

Sorry for the easy question...

-amar

On Wed, 24 Apr 2002, Amar Nayegandhi wrote:

> Hi,

> Thanks for your suggestion. I think I now know what the problem was. I
> have this "32-bit" Matrox G450 graphics card. Earlier, I had configured
> my X-display to 24/8bit, which I think meant that `idl` was working on an
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Amar Nayegandhi

```
*****
```

Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
 Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Wed, 24 Apr 2002 18:40:49 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Amar Nayegandhi" <anayegan@csee.usf.edu> wrote

```

> Is there any way in which I can write out a tiff file dumped from a
> window (using the write_tiff command) while I am in true color mode? If
> tvrd() will not work, is there any other way of doing it?

```

Without details of how you are writing your tiff I can only suggest using David Fanning's tvread program which can be found here:

<http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs.html>

Chances are it will do what you need.

-Rick

Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by nobody@nowhere.com (S on Wed, 24 Apr 2002 19:57:01 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Wed, 24 Apr 2002 14:10:17 -0400, Amar Nayegandhi
<anayegan@csee.usf.edu> wrote:

> Hi,
> Thanks for your suggestion. I think I now know what the problem was. I
> have this "32-bit" Matrox G450 graphics card. Earlier, I had configured
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maybe OT, but your X-server allows this split display mode (e.g. an 8-bit window on a 24-bit desktop)? Do you really have a need for this (some app that can only run in a lower color mode, for instance)? I usually run my X-server in 32bpp mode, which is 24-bit color with what I think is an alpha layer or something similar. Anyways, X usually behaves much better than if set for 24bpp (which also will give 24-bit color). Something to think about.

> Further, while I got those flashing colors, I was able to dump graphics
> from a current window to a tiff file. I cannot do that now. Which is my
> follow up question:
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>
--
Steve S.

```

Subject: Re: 24-bit color problem on Red Hat Linux 7.1
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 25 Apr 2002 09:01:36 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Amar Nayegandhi wrote:

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> Thanks for your suggestion. I think I now know what the problem was. I
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> the one below, I do get true colors.
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Ah, so now we know one of the PC graphics cards which actually supports
8bit overlays in a 24bit X display.

IDL "prefers" an 8 bit PseudoColor visual if it can get it. If your display
supports both you have to tell IDL to use the 24bit TrueColor visual
(before you open graphics windows, or do any "hidden" graphics - even
asking IDL which visual it has will cause it to take 8bit PseudoColor). So
you can leave your display set to supporting both 8 and 24bit and get IDL
to use 24bit. There are numerous posts in the past discussing this issue if
you want more details.

--

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Phone : +44 (0)116 2523568, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555
