
Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 14:23:28 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

```
> I have a short program (posted below) to test 24-bit color. On a 24-bit
> X-Windows display, it works as intended, blending red and green to get yellow.
>
> The printer device does not produce color output, however. As evidenced
> by the xprinter.eps file filled with, e.g.
>
> ...
> 0.4 setgray
> gs np 325.44 176.88 t 325.44 176.88 lo 331.68 176.88 ...
>
> (also by opening xprinter.eps in Illustrator and Ghostview).
>
> Any ideas?
>
> Many thanks, Ken Bowman
>
> PRO TEST24, PRINT = print, VERBOSE = verbose
>
> IF KEYWORD_SET(print) THEN BEGIN
>   entry_device = !D.NAME
>   SET_PLOT, 'PRINTER'
>   DEVICE, /TRUE_COLOR
> ENDIF
> !P.BACKGROUND = 255 + 256*(255 + 256*255)           ;White background
>
> n = 1000L
> x = RANDOMU(seed, n)                                ;Random numbers [0, 1]
> y = RANDOMU(seed, n)                                ;Random numbers [0, 1]
> r = LONG(255*x)                                     ;Red proportional to x
> g = LONG(255*y)                                     ;Green proportional to y
> b = REPLICATE(0B, n)                                ;No blue
>
> PLOT, [0,0], [1,1], /NODATA, COLOR = 0 + 256*(0 + 256*255) ;Blue axes
> PLOTS, x, y, PSYM=1, COLOR = r + 256*(g + 256*b)       ;Red-green-yellow points
>
> IF KEYWORD_SET(verbose) THEN BEGIN
>   HELP, /DEVICE
>   HELP, !D, /STRUCT
> ENDIF
>
> IF KEYWORD_SET(print) THEN BEGIN
>   DEVICE, /CLOSE
>   SET_PLOT, entry_device
```

```
> ENDIF
>
> END
[stuff deleted]
```

I get the same result in IDL 5.5 for IRIX when I use the default PRINTER output device (Generic EPS). However if I select printer-specific output using

```
result = dialog_printersetup()
```

and select the 'HP Color LaserJet PS on FILE:', then I get 24-bit color output as expected. IDL remembers this setting via the \$HOME/.XprinterDefaults file, so the next time I start IDL, this printer is the default when the PRINTER device is selected.

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
<http://www.gumley.com/>

Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 18:18:45 GMT
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In article <3D931860.DB844F92@ssec.wisc.edu>,
"Liam E. Gumley" <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:

```
> I get the same result in IDL 5.5 for IRIX when I use the default PRINTER
> output device (Generic EPS). However if I select printer-specific output
> using
>
> result = dialog_printersetup()
>
> and select the 'HP Color LaserJet PS on FILE:', then I get 24-bit color
> output as expected. IDL remembers this setting via the
> $HOME/.XprinterDefaults file, so the next time I start IDL, this printer
> is the default when the PRINTER device is selected.
```

Bless you, Liam. Time for a footnote on p. 390 for those of us too dense to realize that we need to use a color printer. ;-)

Ken

Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 18:45:57 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman (k-bowman@null.tamu.edu) writes:

> Bless you, Liam. Time for a footnote on p. 390 for those of us too dense to
> realize that we need to use a color printer. ;-)

I've just been given word that Chairman Emeritus Coyote wishes to present a "special recognition award" at this year's IEPA Induction Dinner. I can't say more, but Ken please keep your calendar clear. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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

Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 19:54:15 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

>
> In article <3D931860.DB844F92@ssec.wisc.edu>,
> "Liam E. Gumley" <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:
>
>> I get the same result in IDL 5.5 for IRIX when I use the default PRINTER
>> output device (Generic EPS). However if I select printer-specific output
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>>
>> result = dialog_printersetup()
>>
>> and select the 'HP Color LaserJet PS on FILE:', then I get 24-bit color
>> output as expected. IDL remembers this setting via the
>> \$HOME/.XprinterDefaults file, so the next time I start IDL, this printer
>> is the default when the PRINTER device is selected.
>
> Bless you, Liam. Time for a footnote on p. 390 for those of us too dense to
> realize that we need to use a color printer. ;-)

Ken,

As long as you made my book a required text for the course you are teaching, then I have all the thanks I need.

Cheers,

Liam.

Practical IDL Programming

<http://www.gumley.com/>

PS: I need all the blessings I can get.

Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device

Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 20:46:11 GMT

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In article <3D9365E7.D43D85@ssec.wisc.edu>,
"Liam E. Gumley" <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:

> As long as you made my book a required text for the course you are
> teaching, then I have all the thanks I need.

I probably moved you up 10 places in the Amazon.com rankings all by myself. :-)

Ken

Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device

Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 26 Sep 2002 20:47:55 GMT

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In article <MPG.17fd03d45192cc759899c7@news.frii.com>,
David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote:

> I've just been given word that Chairman Emeritus Coyote
> wishes to present a "special recognition award" at this
> year's IEPA Induction Dinner. I can't say more, but Ken
> please keep your calendar clear. :-)

I fear I may be a nominee for the "Wasted the most time of real IDL expert programmers with stupid questions" award! Is the dinner a roast?

I will be in Boulder the week of October 8-11. Any chance the dinner is that week? ;-)

Ken

P.S. I think the multiple, nested dialog boxes spawned by
DIALOG_PRINTERSETUP (4 deep at one point) may possibly be the most
confusing thing I have encountered in all of IDL. And that's saying
somethin'!

Subject: Re: 24-bit color on printer device
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 27 Sep 2002 02:35:52 GMT
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Kenneth Bowman (k-bowman@null.tamu.edu) writes:

> Is the dinner a roast?

Well, of course it's a roast. These guys are suppose
to be *experts*. What else would it be!? :-)

> I will be in Boulder the week of October 8-11. Any chance
> the dinner is that week? ;-)

Humm. That's the week of the State Tennis championships,
but we may be long gone by then. Let me check my calendar
and get back with you. Anyone else going to be in Boulder
that week?

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
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