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Subject: Re: Getting the current color table  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 12 Nov 2003 12:05:22 GMT  
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df23775@hotmail.com writes:

> Is there a way that I (in the case, the program) can know which is the  
> current color table?  
>  
> The program provides the function XLOADCT in which the user can change the  
> color table. And I would like to know which one is in use. I have a feeling  
> that that has to be somewhere, :). I tried to see if there is any parameter  
> in XLOADCT and LOACT that provides me the number of the color table in the  
> use. I believe that information is somewhere, but where? I looked also in  
> the graphics system variables but I don't find it. Seems to have everything  
> but the index of the color table in use.

The color changing program XCOLORS can do this. But, in general,  
there is no way to tell the index of the color table in use.  
The best XCOLORS can do is tell you the index of the color table  
it last loaded. :-)

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

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Phone: 970-221-0438, IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: Getting the current color table  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 12 Nov 2003 14:52:54 GMT  
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Nuno Oliveira wrote:

> Hi, perhaps you can help me here.  
>  
>  
>  
> Is there a way that I (in the case, the program) can know which is the  
> current color table?  
>  
>

Dear Nuno

I don't know if there is a systemvar where the table number ist stored. I believe it isn't stored.

I will do a feature request about this. You should do this too.

xloadct calls loadct. loadct is a source file. My suggestion is to alter this routine by adding a systemvariable which gets the table\_number.

```
DEFSYSV, '!color_table_number', EXISTS = exist
IF exist THEN !color_table_number=table_number else $
DEFSYSV, '!color_table_number',table_number
```

Later on rsi could add a parameter to the !D or !P sysvars.

Be carefull with changes of build in idl routines. Normally I would suggest to rename it but in this case xloadct won't call the changed one.

regards  
Reimar

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> have everything but the index of the color table in use.  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Cheers, N.

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Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de  
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/>

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

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Subject: Re: Getting the current color table  
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Fri, 14 Nov 2003 21:21:37 GMT

On Wed, 12 Nov 2003 05:05:22 -0700, David Fanning wrote:

```
> df23775@hotmail.com writes:
>
>> Is there a way that I (in the case, the program) can know which is the
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>>
>> The program provides the function XLOADCT in which the user can change
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> The color changing program XCOLORS can do this. But, in general, there
> is no way to tell the index of the color table in use. The best XCOLORS
> can do is tell you the index of the color table it last loaded. :-)
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/xcolors.pro
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
```

I use a little program like this:

```
;; load with loadct, but set the !ctabl system variable too. pro
cu_loadct, table_number, NO_RESET=nr, _REF_EXTRA=e
  cu_ctdef
  if keyword_set(nr) then table_number=!ctabl.cmap if
  n_elements(table_number) ne 0 then begin
    loadct,table_number,_EXTRA=e
    !ctabl.cmap=table_number
    if NOT keyword_set(nr) then begin
      !ctabl.high=1.
      !ctabl.low=0.
      !ctabl.gamma=1.
    endif
  endif else loadct,_EXTRA=e
end
```

with

```
pro cu_ctdef,_EXTRA=e
```

```
defsysv,!ctabl,Exists=exi
if exi eq 1 then return
defsysv,!ctabl,{!ctabl,cmap:0,low:0.,high:1.,gamma:1.0}
end
```

Notice I also save the low and high stretch, and the gamma value. This facilitates keeping the same color tables between instances of an application, but if any program uses its own regular loadct call, !ctabl will be wrong.

JD

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