
Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:42:24 GMT

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Philip Kershaw writes:

> I'm developing a colour editor for use with an image display program for
> Linux and Sun Solaris. I've found that when I update the colour table for
> an RGB image, the image display isn't updated. However, when I run the same
> program under Windows 2000, the image IS updated as expected.
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> I'm running IDL 6.0 set with
>
> Device, Decomposed=0
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> The display is 24-bit in each case for Windows, Linux and Solaris platforms.
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> When I alter the colour table I re-display the image using
>
> TV, image, True=3
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> The image has dimensions (m, n, 3)
>
> As a test, I tried adapting one of Dave Fanning's programs (thank you for
> this!), "color_example.pro" to run loading the RGB image. Again, it works
> under Windows but not Linux or Solaris.
>
> Has anyone come across anything like this? Any ideas?

Well, maybe you are running in *Windows* with Device, Decomposed=0,
but I doubt you are doing the same on your UNIX machines. :-)

Take that Color_Example program and substitute TVIMAGE for every
TV. *Then* see what happens!

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say, there are a number of image display programs
around that are device independent, but none from RSI. :-(

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:44:04 GMT
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Philip Kershaw writes:

> When I alter the colour table I re-display the image using
>
> TV, image, True=3

Oh, the substituted TVIMAGE command should be this:

TVIMAGE, image

It can figure the "true" stuff out at the same time it is
figuring out what kind of device it is on.

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

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [Antonio Santiago](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:45:17 GMT
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Maybe you forgot update your image with the new colors. As you see in
"color_example.pro" of the master Fanning, he caught the event
"xcolors_load" and then does redraw the image.

Bye :)

Philip Kershaw wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I'm developing a colour editor for use with an image display program for
> Linux and Sun Solaris. I've found that when I update the colour table for
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> under Windows but not Linux or Solaris.
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> Has anyone come across anything like this? Any ideas?
>
> With thanks,
> Phil
>
> _____
>
> Philip Kershaw
> Space Science & Technology Department
> Rutherford Appleton Laboratory
> UK
>
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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:53:55 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> Philip Kershaw writes:
>
>> When I alter the colour table I re-display the image using
>>
>> TV, image, True=3
>
> Oh, the substituted TVIMAGE command should be this:
>
> TVIMAGE, image
>

> It can figure the "true" stuff out at the same time it is
> figuring out what kind of device it is on.

Oh, dear! Working too fast this morning. My mind is on finding more warm clothes around the house. :-(

Here is what I think is happening.

On UNIX machines, a true-color image is a true-color image. There is no color table involved whatsoever. (This is the way it *ought* to be, IMHO. I think it is Windows who is nuts.) A true-color image carries around its own color table, always! Otherwise, what would be the point?

Of course, this makes it more difficult to deal with color tables, but there really is no *point* to a color table with a true-color image. If you want to work with color tables, use 2D images. If you insist on working with true-color images, then you will have to create your own true-color image from the color table in question:

```
TVLCT, r, g, b, /Get  
myimage[*,*,0] = r[myimage[*,*,0]  
myimage[*,*,1] = g[myimage[*,*,1]  
myimage[*,*,2] = b[myimage[*,*,0]  
TV, myimage, True=3
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:58:29 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

```
> TVLCT, r, g, b, /Get  
> myimage[*,*,0] = r[myimage[*,*,0]  
> myimage[*,*,1] = g[myimage[*,*,1]
```

```
> myimage[:,*,2] = b[myimage[:,*,0]
> TV, myimage, True=3
```

Whoops!

```
myimage[:,*,2] = b[myimage[:,*,2]
```

Of course.

Now, where is that damn balaclava!!!

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris

Posted by [Philip Kershaw](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 16:49:50 GMT

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Your solution is the same as a colleague of mine had tried. I will go with that. - It confirms things + from your explanation it makes more sense.

I did want to avoid actually altering the image but I can make a temporary copy so it's not really a problem. I'm only displaying the image viewport at any one time so it takes up little extra memory.

Thanks for your help,

Phil

"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1acdf1f2f128526e989718@news.frii.com...

> David Fanning writes:

>

>> Philip Kershaw writes:

>>

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>>>

>>> TV, image, True=3

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>> It can figure the "true" stuff out at the same time it is
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> myimage[*,*,1] = g[myimage[*,*,1]
> myimage[*,*,2] = b[myimage[*,*,0]
> TV, myimage, True=3
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [Philip Kershaw](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 16:54:00 GMT
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Yes, I did need to check that I'd done that. The problem persisted but it seems I have a solution in that I actually apply the RGB stretch to the image itself.

Thanks for your help,

Phil

"Antonio Santiago" <d6522117@est.fib.upc.es> wrote in message
news:406441FD.6010606@est.fib.upc.es...

> Maybe you forgot update your image with the new colors. As you see in
> "color_example.pro" of the master Fanning, he caught the event
> "xcolors_load" and then does redraw the image.

>

> Bye :)

>

>

> Philip Kershaw wrote:

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>> Has anyone come across anything like this? Any ideas?

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>> With thanks,

>> Phil

>>

>>

>> Philip Kershaw

>> Space Science & Technology Department

>> Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

>> UK

>> _____

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>

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris

Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 17:57:51 GMT

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You can use a color table in this situation if your machine has a DirectColor visual.

You can check this by running the command 'xdpyinfo' and see if the X server lists a DirectColor visual.

Another way is to issue 'HELP, /DEVICE' in IDL and see which visual you are using. However, this may be affected by any DEVICE commands you may have in an IDL startup file.

Anyway, I just sat down at a machine with a DirectColor 24-bit visual and issued:

```
read_jpeg, FILEPATH('rose.jpg', SUBDIRECTORY=['examples','data']), image
```

```
v = 255 - BINDGEN(256)
```

```
tvlct, v, v, v
```

```
tv, image, /true
```

and I got the expected reverse-colored image.

There is also a useful note in the IDL documentation that discusses X Windows visuals:

"IDL's color table does not map directly to a hardware color table for a TrueColor visual. If IDL's color table is modified, for example using the LOADCT or TVLCT routines, then the new color table will only take effect for graphics that are drawn after it has been modified."

This makes sense because IDL cannot modify a static color map.

However, you do need to pay attention to the color table translation control in the DEVICE command.

If you are using a TrueColor visual and you want to really apply a color table while writing the image to the screen, issue

```
DEVICE, BYPASS_TRANSLATION=0
```

and then the above code will draw the reverse-colored image while using a TrueColor visual.

The default setting for `bypass_translation` is a little complicated, but in this case, the translation is bypassed for performance reasons. In most cases, the true-color image is ready to be displayed without modification. But you do get the choice of applying the color table to your image data yourself, or letting IDL do it via the `bypass_translation` control in the `DEVICE` command.

Karl

"Philip Kershaw" <p.j.kershaw@rl.ac.uk> wrote in message
news:c41n71\$3ds@newton.cc.rl.ac.uk...

> Yes, I did need to check that I'd done that. The problem persisted but it
> seems I have a solution in that I actually apply the RGB stretch to the
> image itself.

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> Thanks for your help,

> Phil

> "Antonio Santiago" <d6522117@est.fib.upc.es> wrote in message

> news:406441FD.6010606@est.fib.upc.es...

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>> Philip Kershaw wrote:

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>>> _____
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>>> Philip Kershaw
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>>> Rutherford Appleton Laboratory
>>> UK
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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 18:07:00 GMT
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Karl Schultz writes:

> You can use a color table in this situation if your machine has a
> DirectColor visual.

Karl might be the second person in the world (at least among my acquaintances) that has managed to get a DirectColor visual working correctly. Surely this ranks up there with programming the VCR for the rest of us!

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
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Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 18:09:31 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> Karl might be the second person in the world (at least
> among my acquaintances) that has managed to get a
> DirectColor visual working correctly. Surely this
> ranks up there with programming the VCR for the rest
> of us!

And even if you did get it to run on your machine,
you *know* it ain't gonna run on your bosses machine!!

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 18:33:14 GMT
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"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1ace1fc69e93828198971c@news.frii.com...

> David Fanning writes:
>
>> Karl might be the second person in the world (at least
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>> ranks up there with programming the VCR for the rest
>> of us!
>
> And even if you did get it to run on your machine,
> you *know* it ain't gonna run on your bosses machine!!

There's some truth to that...

I did my test on a machine that could support 24 and 8 bit deep windows at the same time and had multiple hardware colormaps, so there were no "flashing" effects. On a machine without such support, you would have to go through a lot of trouble to prevent these problems or just give up and go back to TrueColor. Unless you are doing palette animations or other palette tricks, TrueColor is often a lot easier to deal with. In general, it is pretty hard to write X applications (IDL or not) that use more than a handful of colors, don't cause colormap flashing, and run on all possible X visual configurations. I had thought I would offer the DirectColor approach to Philip in case that would work well for him.

Besides, I gave up on VCR's and am now using a TiVo. :-)

Karl

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 19:13:57 GMT
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Karl Schultz writes:

> Besides, I gave up on VCR's and am now using a TiVo. :-)

I haven't owned a television in over 15 years, I guess.
But I was visiting my mother a week or so ago, and she has DirectTV. My goodness, I had no idea there were so many channels, all filled with crap!

Anyway, I thought I might watch a game late one night, so I picked up one of the (many!) remote controllers and starting clicking like mad, but the channel would only change intermittently, and then in really weird ways.

Finally, I had to call my youngest son in to figure out

what was wrong. "Uh, Dad, you have to point it at *this* thing, not *that* thing." Oh... :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 19:36:57 GMT

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>> Besides, I gave up on VCR's and am now using a TiVo. :-)

>

>

> I haven't owned a television in over 15 years, I guess.

And here I thought I was the only person around who doesn't own a TV.
You learn something new every day in the IDL newsgroup.

-Mike

Subject: Re: Changing the Colour Table for RGB images on Linux/Solaris
Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 21:10:12 GMT

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"David Fanning" wrote...

> Karl Schultz writes:

>

>> Besides, I gave up on VCR's and am now using a TiVo. :-)

>

> I haven't owned a television in over 15 years, I guess.

> But I was visiting my mother a week or so ago, and she

> has DirectTV. My goodness, I had no idea there were

> so many channels, all filled with crap!

This is precisely why you *need* a TiVo or ReplayTV (my PVR of choice). I haven't watched a bad television show since I bought my Replay! (Well, occasionally I do have to sit thru one of my Wife's shows ;)

I think you'll wish you had one up in Deadhorse since there doesn't seem to be a lot to do outside.

-Rick
