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Subject: Re: 8 bit color

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 15:18:28 GMT

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wmc@bas.ac.uk writes:

> I want to use 8-bit psuedo color on a 24-bit display (so I can screen  
> capture as PNG's). But the display (X) remains resolutely True Color.  
>  
> I tried:  
>  
> idl.gr\_visual: PseudoColor  
> idl.gr\_depth: 8  
>  
> in my .Xdefaults as recommended in  
>  
> [http://www.dfanning.com/color\\_tips/unix\\_16bit\\_visuals.html](http://www.dfanning.com/color_tips/unix_16bit_visuals.html)  
>  
> but this didn't work. I've tried device,true\_color=0 and ,/psuedo  
> and none of it works: I'm stuck in true color. What are the magic  
> words (please)?

TVREAD. Well, it \*used\* to be TVREAD. Then I think I changed  
the PNG code to use 24-bit color images. But look at the  
code for GIF, which is still in there. This is how you  
will make an 8-bit colored PNG from a 24-bit screen capture.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Greetings from the Big Freeze. If sabbaticals are  
designed to change perceptions, mine is working. I've  
been here lest than a week and already I think of -10  
below zero as "really warm". :-)

--

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: 8 bit color

Posted by [wmconnolley](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 18:57:45 GMT

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David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> wmc@bas.ac.uk writes:

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> will make an 8-bit colored PNG from a 24-bit screen capture.

Hmm, OK, will have a look. But is there no way to set the IDL window  
to use 8 bit psuedo colour? I can get it down to 8 bit true colour,  
(and I even spell it color) but not to psuedo.

> P.S. Greetings from the Big Freeze. If sabbaticals are  
> designed to change perceptions, mine is working. I've  
> been here lest than a week and already I think of -10  
> below zero as "really warm". :-)

Maybe they should sent you to Vostok :-)

-W.

--

William M Connolley | wmc@bas.ac.uk | <http://www.antarctica.ac.uk/met/wmc/>  
Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself  
I'm a .signature virus! copy me into your .signature file & help me spread!

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Subject: Re: 8 bit color

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Mon, 05 Apr 2004 10:10:25 GMT

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wmc@bas.ac.uk wrote:

> David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

>

>> wmc@bas.ac.uk writes:

>

>

>>> I want to use 8-bit psuedo color on a 24-bit display (so I can screen  
>>> capture as PNG's). But the display (X) remains resolutely True Color.

>>>

>>

>> TVREAD. Well, it \*used\* to be TVREAD. Then I think I changed

>> the PNG code to use 24-bit color images. But look at the

>> code for GIF, which is still in there. This is how you

>> will make an 8-bit colored PNG from a 24-bit screen capture.

>

>  
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> to use 8 bit psuedo colour? I can get it down to 8 bit true colour,  
> (and I even spell it color) but not to psuedo.  
>  
>  
>

Are you sure your graphics card is offering a PsuedoColor option?  
You can check all the available visuals with xdpinfo.

Most PC and low end workstation graphics cards are not able to offer TrueColor and PsuedoColor simultaneously. You have to choose which you want when you start the X server. It may be possible to run two X servers at the same time on the same display, though, with different visuals. What OS/hardware are you running on?

--  
Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,  
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK  
E-mail : [nmw@ion.le.ac.uk](mailto:nmw@ion.le.ac.uk)  
Phone : +44 (0)116 2523548, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

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Subject: Re: 8 bit color  
Posted by [wmconnolley](#) on Mon, 05 Apr 2004 11:35:59 GMT  
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Nigel Wade <[nmw@ion.le.ac.uk](mailto:nmw@ion.le.ac.uk)> wrote:  
> [wmc@bas.ac.uk](mailto:wmc@bas.ac.uk) wrote:

>> Hmm, OK, will have a look. But is there no way to set the IDL window  
>> to use 8 bit psuedo colour? I can get it down to 8 bit true colour,  
>> (and I even spell it color) but not to psuedo.

> Are you sure your graphics card is offering a PsuedoColor option?  
> You can check all the available visuals with xdpinfo.

> Most PC and low end workstation graphics cards are not able to offer  
> TrueColor and PsuedoColor simultaneously. You have to choose which you want  
> when you start the X server. It may be possible to run two X servers at the  
> same time on the same display, though, with different visuals. What  
> OS/hardware are you running on?

This was running via vnc, so hardware isn't the issue (I think).  
Perhaps I should have started the vnc server with different options?

Quite possible -cc 3 (<http://www.realvnc.com/man/vncserver.html>). Well, I'll try it sometime.

-W.

--

William M Connolley | [wmc@bas.ac.uk](mailto:wmc@bas.ac.uk) | <http://www.antarctica.ac.uk/met/wmc/>  
Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself  
I'm a .signature virus! copy me into your .signature file & help me spread!

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Subject: Re: 8 bit color

Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Mon, 05 Apr 2004 15:04:43 GMT

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<[wmc@bas.ac.uk](mailto:wmc@bas.ac.uk)> wrote in message <news:4071368f@news.nwl.ac.uk...>

> Nigel Wade <[nmw@ion.le.ac.uk](mailto:nmw@ion.le.ac.uk)> wrote:

>> [wmc@bas.ac.uk](mailto:wmc@bas.ac.uk) wrote:

>

>>> Hmm, OK, will have a look. But is there no way to set the IDL window

>>> to use 8 bit psuedo colour? I can get it down to 8 bit true colour,

>>> (and I even spell it color) but not to psuedo.

>

>> Are you sure your graphics card is offering a PsuedoColor option?

>> You can check all the available visuals with `xdpinfo`.

>

>> Most PC and low end workstation graphics cards are not able to offer

>> TrueColor and PsuedoColor simultaneously. You have to choose which you want

>> when you start the X server. It may be possible to run two X servers at the

>> same time on the same display, though, with different visuals. What

>> OS/hardware are you running on?

>

> This was running via vnc, so hardware isn't the issue (I think).

> Perhaps I should have started the vnc server with different options?

>

> Quite possible `-cc 3` (<http://www.realvnc.com/man/vncserver.html>). Well, I'll

> try it sometime.

>

`vncserver -depth 8 -cc 3`

worked nicely for me.

Karl

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