Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 25 Mar 2005 22:36:45 GMT
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Ed Hyer writes:

> I got started using the 255-color color tables IDL provides, which are
> useful immediately for quick plotting. After a while, I got greedy and
> started using TVLCT when I needed another color that wasn't in the
> color table I was using. Now I am creating my graphics as METAFILES and
> have found this trick doesn't seem to work. I initialize the device as
> follows:
>> set_plot,'METAFILE'
>> device,file=outfile
>> device,xsize=xsize/30,ysize=ysize/30
>> device,/index
>> device,true=0
> Then, I use TVLCT to give me colors I need, such as adding a gray for
> NODATA to my usual ROYGBIV colors:
>> loadct,39
>> tvlct,[100,100,100],1
> This works beautifully on the WIN display device, but does not change
> the colors at all in the METAFILE.
> Is there another workaround for this?

METAFILE!? Isn't that circa 1976 or something?
I'd mention this to RSI. They are interested in old
technology. :-)

Cheers,

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

Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by R.Bauer on Sat, 26 Mar 2005 00:04:57 GMT
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Ed Hyer wrote:

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> the colors at all in the METAFILE.
> Is there another workaround for this?

Dear Ed,

what is the reason to use 'METAFILE'? Why not using Postscript?

Reimar

--
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/
========== ======
a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro. html

---

Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by Karl Schultz on Mon, 28 Mar 2005 16:09:57 GMT
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On Fri, 25 Mar 2005 15:36:45 -0700, David Fanning wrote:

> Ed Hyer writes:
>
>> I got started using the 255-color color tables IDL provides, which are
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>
> METAFILE!? Isn't that circa 1976 or something?
> I'd mention this to RSI. They are interested in old
> technology. :-)
>

You might be thinking of the the CGM (Computer Graphics Metafile) driver.
CGM is pretty old. The METAFILE device was added to IDL in IDL 5.4 and
supports sending output to a Windows Metafile.

Karl

Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 28 Mar 2005 16:25:15 GMT
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Karl Schultz writes:

> You might be thinking of the the CGM (Computer Graphics Metafile) driver.
> CGM is pretty old. The METAFILE device was added to IDL in IDL 5.4 and
> supports sending output to a Windows Metafile.

Oh, right. Well, is it broken? :-)

Cheers,

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

Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 28 Mar 2005 16:33:37 GMT
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Ed Hyer writes:

> I got started using the 255-color color tables IDL provides, which are
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> the colors at all in the METAFILE.
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Now that I know what the METAFILE graphics device is, maybe I
can offer a suggestion. Several graphics devices, apparently,
do not allow you to load colors once you have made them
the current graphics device. (The PRINTER device is the
most notorious of these.) Knowing Windows as intimately as
I do, I could believe the METAFILE device might also be one
of these.

In this case, it is necessary to load the color table
before you SET_PLOT to the device. This action then copies
the current colors into the device color tables, and you
have to pretty much be content with what you've got. (Personally,
I think RSI is trying to teach us an important life lesson
here, but your mileage may vary.)

Cheers,

David

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

Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 28 Mar 2005 16:45:55 GMT

David Fanning writes:

> In this case, it is necessary to load the color table
> *before* you SET_PLOT to the device. This action then copies
> the current colors into the device color tables, and you
> have to pretty much be content with what you've got. (Personally,
> I think RSI is trying to teach us an important life lesson
> here, but your mileage may vary.)

Of course, you can put the METAFILE device in True_Color
mode and specify all your colors as 24-bit values (this
is what I would do). In that case, FSC_COLOR will help
you write portable code.

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_color.pro

Cheers,

David

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

Subject: Re: METAFILE + TVLCT
Posted by Karl Schultz on Mon, 28 Mar 2005 17:18:59 GMT

On Fri, 25 Mar 2005 13:59:50 -0800, Ed Hyer wrote:

> I got started using the 255-color color tables IDL provides, which are
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> the colors at all in the METAFILE.
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This is a bug. I'll fix it for next release.

One workaround is to always load the color table starting at the beginning.

So if you wanted to change only index 10, you'd have to get entries 0-9
and then set 0-10. Or get the entire table, make your changes, and then
set the whole thing again.

Karl
