Subject: no grayscale on PCL printer
Posted by Benjamin Hornberger on Wed, 13 Jul 2005 16:29:26 GMT

Hi all,

I have the following problem: I am using the PRINTER device to print a
byte image in index-color mode. On my computer (Win XP), I have my
office printer (HP Laserjet 4000N) installed twice, once with a PS
driver, once with a PCL driver. If I choose the PS driver
(dialog_printersetup()), the image comes out fine, if I choose the PCL
driver, it comes out in pure black-and-white (no grayscales). If I want
to print the image with a predefined colortable, it's still ok with the
PS driver (even though it comes out in grayscale, since it's not a color
printer), and with the PCL driver the whole image is black.

The two drivers behave slightly differently in other applications, but
not like that.

To set up the printer, I do:

```
[make sure the correct color table is loaded]
ok = dialog_printersetup(dialog_parent=event.top)
IF ~ok THEN return
set_plot, 'printer', /copy
!p.font = 1 ;; true type
!p.noerase = 1
device, /index_color
...
```

Any clues? Thanks for your help,

Benjamin

Subject: Re: no grayscale on PCL printer
Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 13 Jul 2005 17:08:46 GMT

Benjamin Hornberger writes:

> I have the following problem: I am using the PRINTER device to print a
> byte image in index-color mode. On my computer (Win XP), I have my
> office printer (HP Laserjet 4000N) installed twice, once with a PS
> driver, once with a PCL driver. If I choose the PS driver
> (dialog_printersetup()), the image comes out fine, if I choose the PCL
> driver, it comes out in pure black-and-white (no grayscales). If I want
> to print the image with a predefined colortable, it's still ok with the

> PS driver (even though it comes out in grayscale, since it's not a color
> printer), and with the PCL driver the whole image is black.
>
> The two drivers behave slightly differently in other applications, but
> not like that.
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> To set up the printer, I do:
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>   [make sure the correct color table is loaded]
>   ok = dialog_printersetup(dialog_parent=event.top)
>   IF ~ok THEN return
>   set_plot, 'printer', /copy
>   !p.font = 1 ;; true type
>   !p.noerase = 1
>   device, /index_color
>   ...
>
> Any clues? Thanks for your help,

I don't know anything about PCL printers, but I would
try setting the slightly misnamed COLOR keyword. I think
the keyword should really be COLOR_OR_GRAYSCALE_OR_WHATEVER,
but that's another story. :-)

Cheers,

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

Subject: Re: no grayscale on PCL printer
Posted by Benjamin Hornberger on Wed, 13 Jul 2005 17:12:35 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:
>
> I don't know anything about PCL printers, but I would
> try setting the slightly misnamed COLOR keyword. I think
> the keyword should really be COLOR_OR_GRAYSCALE_OR_WHATEVER,
> but that's another story. :-)

The PRINTER device doesn't have a COLOR keyword (only TRUE_COLOR or
INDEX_COLOR). Note, I am using the PRINTER device, not the PCL device.
The only difference between the two cases is that I choose a different
Windows printer in dialog_printersetup().

Benjamin

Subject: Re: no grayscale on PCL printer
Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 13 Jul 2005 17:31:38 GMT

Benjamin Hornberger writes:

> The PRINTER device doesn't have a COLOR keyword (only TRUE_COLOR or
> INDEX_COLOR). Note, I am using the PRINTER device, not the PCL device.
> The only difference between the two cases is that I choose a different
> Windows printer in dialog_printersetup().

Oh, right. Yeah, that probably doesn't work. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say that PRINTER device was probably not
the *best* idea RSI ever had.

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