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Subject: Re: display an image from RGB  
Posted by [Jean\[1\]](#) on Fri, 16 Dec 2005 21:43:09 GMT  
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> I suppose I need to know the relationship between (red, green, blue)  
> triplets and IDL color table. Say,  
> zcolors = red \* var\_red + green \* var\_red + blue \* var\_blue  
> Once I know this relationship, I can use it to generate a new image,  
> whose pixel values will correspond to IDL color table.

look for rgbtoidx.pro in ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/training/IDL\_intro/intro.zip

Jean

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Subject: Re: display an image from RGB  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 17 Dec 2005 00:50:44 GMT  
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Chi-Kuei Wang writes:

> I am an ENVI user. In the context of multi- and hyper-spectral data,  
> I always wonder how does ENVI display an image using 3 different  
> wavelengths representing red, green, and blue colors.  
>  
> I am trying to reproduce this function using my own code in IDL (as  
> an exercise to understand IDL color table). But I couldn't find a way to  
> do it. I suppose I need to know the relationship between (red, green,  
> blue) triplets and IDL color table. Say,  
> zcolors = red \* var\_red + green \* var\_red + blue \* var\_blue  
> Once I know this relationship, I can use it to generate a new image,  
> whose pixel values will correspond to IDL color table.  
>  
> Is this correct? If so, can anyone provide me the relationship for  
> color triplets and IDL color table.

I don't have any idea how ENVI does this, but I think you have a couple of choices. You can take your three images (call them R, G, and B) and create a flat 2D gray-scale image that you can display with any color table you like. A typical formula for creating a gray-scale image that preserves color "sensitivity" is this:

```
IDL> Y = 0.3*R + 0.59*G + 0.11*B
IDL> LoadCT, 22
IDL> Device, Decomposed=0
IDL> TV, BytScl(y)
```

Or, you can create what is called a "pseudocolor" image by using the three (byte scaled) images directly as the red, green, and blue channel of a 24-bit image:

```
IDL> image24 = [ [[Bytscl(R)]], [[BytScl(G)]], [[Bytscl(B)]] ]  
IDL> Device, Decomposed=1  
IDL> TV, image24, True=3
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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Subject: Re: display an image from RGB

Posted by [chikuei@gmail.com](mailto:chikuei@gmail.com) on Mon, 19 Dec 2005 16:03:18 GMT

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This solution is exactly what I was looking for.

Simple and makes sense to me.

Thanks a lot.

Chi-Kuei

```
> Or, you can create what is called a "pseudocolor"  
> image by using the three (byte scaled) images directly  
> as the red, green, and blue channel of a 24-bit image:  
>  
> IDL> image24 = [ [[Bytscl(R)]], [[BytScl(G)]], [[Bytscl(B)]] ]  
> IDL> Device, Decomposed=1  
> IDL> TV, image24, True=3  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
>  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
```

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