
Subject: Re: WIN device color and backgnd reset after set_plot command

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 22 Jan 2006 05:21:35 GMT

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guillaume.drolet.1@ulaval.ca writes:

- > I've been trying to find an answer to this question but unsuccessfully:
- >
- > In my IDL start up script, I switch the default WIN device background
- > and color (!d.background & !d.color) to white and black, respectively.
- > However, when I write a Post Script file (set_plot, 'PS') and then get
- > back to the WIN device, the device background and color are resetted to
- > the default values.
- >
- > Does anyone have any solution or trick for avoiding such a behavior?

Yes, don't use indices 0 and 255 for *anything*, and always use a white background color for your WIN device. Then everything will work *perfectly*. :-)

```
!P.Background = 254
!P.Color = 253
TVLCT, 255, 255, 255, 254 ; White.
TVLCT, 0, 0, 128, 253 ; Navy blue.
Device, Decomposed=0
```

Then, like this:

```
Plot, findgen(11)
thisDev = !D.Name
Set_Plot, 'ps'
Device, /Color, Bits=8
Plot, findgen(11)
Device, /Close
Set_Plot, thisDev
```

PS file looks like the display, and visa versa. :-)

And, possibly, if you *really* want to do this correctly, use FSC_COLOR to specify your colors. In other words,

```
PLOT, findgen(11), Color=FSC_Color('Navy'), $
    Background=FSC_Color('white')
```

always works, too. And you don't have to muck around with !P.Color, etc.

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: WIN device color and backgnd reset after set_plot command

Posted by [guillaume.drolet.1](#) on Sun, 22 Jan 2006 05:40:45 GMT

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Thanks David.

I'm sorry but I forgot to mention an important thing: I use the 24-bit default display (or 16 million colors) so the colors I'm using are !p.color = 0 and !p.background = 16777215. Based on your suggestion, what colors should I use instead? Or maybe should I switch to the 8-bit display mode ?

Gui

Subject: Re: WIN device color and backgnd reset after set_plot command

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 22 Jan 2006 06:33:56 GMT

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guillaume.drolet.1@ulaval.ca writes:

> I'm sorry but I forgot to mention an important thing: I use the 24-bit
> default display (or 16 million colors) so the colors I'm using are
> !p.color = 0 and !p.background = 16777215. Based on your suggestion,
> what colors should I use instead? Or maybe should I switch to the 8-bit
> display mode ?

I'd use FSC_Color. It works in 8-bit or 24-bit mode without having to do anything different. Don't under ANY circumstances switch to 8-bit display mode. Do you know how long it has taken me to get you as my only convert! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: WIN device color and backgnd reset after set_plot command
Posted by [guillaume.drolet.1](#) on Thu, 26 Jan 2006 06:13:12 GMT
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Hi !

I edited my startup script like this (as David's suggest):

```
!p.background = fsc_color('white')  
!p.color = fsc_color('Navy')
```

But the same thing keep happening when I switch from WIN to PS and then to WIN again: the plot background and color previously set in my startup script are resetted to IDL defaults (i.e. black background and white color, which I don't like).

Since I usually plot long expressions, I don't to have to specify plot color and background every time I plot data after coming back PS device to WIN device.

Again, any useful advice is welcome.

Thanks, Gui
