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Subject: Re: Color conversions

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 10 Jul 2008 16:17:45 GMT

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MichaelT writes:

- > here is something I'd like to do and I do not know how, despite some
- > lengthy searches and trials:
- >
- > Say, I have displayed an image in a window and plotted some other
- > things on top. All that with a certain color table. Later, I want to
- > switch to a different color table and display the very content with
- > the new color table. I do not want to do all the displaying and
- > plotting, again. Just read the content of the window and display it
- > with another color table. So I tried something with TVRD - without any
- > success.
- > How would you do it? Is there a simple way?

Not only is there no simple way, I think there is basically no way, unless you maybe are still using an 8-bit display.

But, typically, people solve this problem by loading a new color table and re-displaying the graphic. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: Color conversions

Posted by [MichaelT](#) on Thu, 10 Jul 2008 16:27:43 GMT

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- > Not only is there no simple way, I think there is basically
  - > no way, unless you maybe are still using an 8-bit display.
- Ok, I suspected that...

>

- > But, typically, people solve this problem by loading a new
- > color table and re-displaying the graphic. :-)

Yes, usually I'd do it that way, too.

But, I have a widget window where some stuff is displayed and I'd like

to have some button "original color/false color" to quickly switch between two color tables at any time - without having to know what was actually displayed...

But, it seems I will have to do it the usual way.

Cheers,  
Michael

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Subject: Re: Color conversions  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 10 Jul 2008 16:33:01 GMT  
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MichaelT writes:

- > But, I have a widget window where some stuff is displayed and I'd like
- > to have some button "original color/false color" to quickly switch
- > between two color tables at any time - without having to know what was
- > actually displayed...
- >
- > But, it seems I will have to do it the usual way.

If you change your color tables with XCOLORS (instead of XLOADCT), then you will be able to keep track of which color table index was loaded.

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/xcolors.pro>

This feature was designed for just exactly this problem.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: Color conversions  
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 10 Jul 2008 16:36:03 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:  
> MichaelT writes:

>  
>> here is something I'd like to do and I do not know how, despite some  
>> lengthy searches and trials:  
>>  
>> Say, I have displayed an image in a window and plotted some other  
>> things on top. All that with a certain color table. Later, I want to  
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> Not only is there no simple way, I think there is basically  
> no way, unless you maybe are still using an 8-bit display.  
>  
> But, typically, people solve this problem by loading a new  
> color table and re-displaying the graphic. :-)

And it should be easy, right? I mean you've encapsulated all your display code into a routine, say "display\_data" (right?), so all you have to do is

```
; default color table index  
cidx = 0
```

```
repeat begin
```

```
  ; Load color table  
  loadct, cidx
```

```
  ; display data  
  display_data, mydata
```

```
  ; Get new colour table index  
  read, "New color table index [0-40] : ", cidx
```

```
endrep until (cidx lt 0 or cidx gt 40)
```

?

cheers,

paulv

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