
Subject: What exactly does the command "strech" do to the colormap?

Posted by [ICBM0926](#) on Wed, 08 Apr 2009 08:08:41 GMT

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Dear all

I am trying to use TVSCL to plot colored contour plots. Before the "TVSCL" command, I am trying to use "stretch" to

adjust my color table. For what I know, there are only 256 levels in IDL colormap. What does the "stretch" command do

while I use "stretch, 0, 368" or "0, 128" ? How does it change the colortable used below?

Best regard

Subject: Re: What exactly does the command "strech" do to the colormap?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 13 Apr 2009 12:41:04 GMT

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ICBM0926 writes:

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> Dear David
> Thanks for your reply. What I am trying to do is to write a procedure
> which is a part of my analysis procedures which is used to analysis
> simulation dumped data in HDF5 format.
> I try to make it user friendly, so user only needs to call these
> procedures with certain parameters and then they get what they want.
> One of the features is that user can set "dynamical range" of their
> colored contour plot.
> I've written a procedures to creat colored contour. Before the
> fielddata ("field" array) is sent into this procedures, it goes throug
> following loop to make sure the data within the dynamical range.
>
> if fieldarrsize[0] eq 2 then begin
>   if n_elements(dyrange) ne 0 then begin
>     for j=0 ,nx1-1L do begin
>       for i=0 ,nx0-1L do begin
>         if field(i,j) GT dyrange[1] then begin
>           field(i,j)=dyrange[1]
>         endif else if field(i,j) LT dyrange[0] then begin
>           field(i,j)=dyrange[0]
>         endif
>       endfor
>     endfor
>   endif
> endif
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> endif
>
> After this loop, the fielddata is sent into "my_vp_fieldtvscl.pro".
> That procedure is used to creat colored contour. What I am trying to
> accomplish through "strech" is to make sure the consistency between
> colorbar and colored contour of fielddata. The following code is
> "my_vp_fieldtvscl.pro".
> =====
> ,*****
> ;T.H.Hshieh IAMS
> ;This program is to plot field data with TVSCL.
> ;20090205
> ,*****
> pro my_vp_fieldtvscl,fielddata, x0axis, x1axis, x0_label=x0_label,
> x1_label=x1_label, ct=ct, invct=invct, cbby_title=cbby_title,
> title_str=title_str, psoutfilename=psoutfilename, $
> cbby_ticknum=cbby_ticknum, dyrange=dyrange, time=time
>
> if n_elements(x0_label) eq 0 then x0_label='x0'
> if n_elements(x1_label) eq 0 then x1_label='x1'
> if n_elements(cbby_title) eq 0 then cbby_title='colorbar'
> if n_elements(dyrange) eq 0 then begin
>   cbrange=dblarr(2)
>   cbrange(0)=min(fielddata)
>   cbrange(1)=max(fielddata)
> endif else begin
>   cbrange=dyrange
> endelse
> if n_elements(cbby_ticknum) eq 0 then begin
>   cbby_ticknum=4
> endif
> print,"cbby_ticknum",cbby_ticknum
> !P.TITLE = title_str
> ;=====plot parameter=====
> x0_charsize=1.2
> x1_charsize=1.2
> p_charthick=6
> line_thick=6
> x0_ticklen=0.06
> x1_ticklen=0.06
> ict=ct
> ist_low=0
> ist_high=255
> ,*****position*****
> x0_size=30
> x1_size=30/1.6803
> x0_offset=1
> x1_offset=5

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> ,*****colorcon position*****
> px1=0.69
> py1=0.8
> px0=0.2
> py0=py1-(4.8*(px1-px0)*1.6803)/7
> print,'py0=',py0
> ,*****color bar position*****
> cbx0=0.70
> cby0=py0
> cbx1=0.74
> cby1=py1
> ,*****Other parameters*****
> !P.Multi=[0,1,1]
> !x.style=1
> !y.style=1
> !x.charsize=x0_charsize
> !y.charsize=x1_charsize
> !p.charthick = p_charthick
> !x.thick=line_thick
> !y.thick=line_thick
> !p.font=0
> ;=====max & min=====
> x0_min=min(x0axis)
> x0_max=max(x0axis)
> x0_ticks=5.
> x0_minor=5.
> x0_interval=(max(x0axis)-min(x0axis))/x0_ticks
> x1_min=min(x1 axis)
> x1_max=max(x1 axis)
> x1_ticks=5.
> x1_minor=5.
> colorbar_ticklen=0.2
> colorbar_minor=5
> ;=====
> ;title
> cbby_title=cbby_title
> colorbar_max=cbrange(1)
> colorbar_min=cbrange(0)
>
> ;-----setting color bar array-----
> cb_arr=dblarr(1,256)
> dcb=(colorbar_max-colorbar_min)/(256.-1.)
> cb_arr(0,0)=colorbar_min
> for i=1,256-1 do begin
>   cb_arr(0,i)=cb_arr(0,i-1)+dcb
> endfor
> ; rendering to screen is done. here we render to ps file
> set_plot, 'ps'

```

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> device,/color,SET_FONT='Helvetica'
> device, filename=psoutfilename, /color,
> bits_per_pixel=8 ,SET_FONT='Helvetica' $
> ,xsize=x0_size, ysize=x1_size, xoffset=x0_offset, yoffset=x1_offset,/
> portrait
> !p.charsize=1.6
> ;plot data
> plot , [x0_min,x0_max],[x1_min,x1_max], /nodata, /noerase $
> , position=[px0,py0,px1,py1] $
> , xstyle=5, ystyle=5,title=""
> LoadCT, ict
> ,*****
> ;in order to prevent from the incorrect color bar label.
> ;The color table must be redefined by "stretch".
> ,*****
> if (max(fielddata) LT cbrange(1)) or (min(fielddata) GT cbrange(0))
> then begin
>   data_ist_high=ist_high+(cbrange(1)-max(fielddata))/(max(fielddata)-min
> (fielddata))*double(n_elements(cb_arr))
>   data_ist_high=round(data_ist_high)
>   print,'data_ist_high=',data_ist_high
>   data_ist_low=ist_low-(min(fielddata)-cbrange(0))/(max(fielddata)-min
> (fielddata))*double(n_elements(cb_arr))
>   data_ist_low=round(data_ist_low)
>   print,'data_ist_low=', data_ist_low
> endif else begin
>   data_ist_high=ist_high
>   data_ist_low=ist_low
> endelse
> stretch ,data_ist_low,data_ist_high
> if n_elements(invct) ne 0 then stretch ,data_ist_high,data_ist_low
> xsize=(px1-px0)* !D.X_VSize
> ysize=(py1-py0)* !D.Y_VSize
> xstart=px0* !D.X_VSize
> ystart=py0* !D.Y_VSize
> TVScl, fielddata, xstart,ystart,XSize=xsize,YSize=ysize
> LoadCT,0 ; reset color table
> stretch, 0,255
> yticksv=dindgen(x1_ticks)*(max(x1axis)-min(x1axis))/x1_ticks + min
> (x1axis)
> ;plot x0 axis
>
> axis, x0_min, x1_min, xaxis=0 $
> , xtitle=x0_label $
> , xticks=x0_ticks, xminor=x0_minor, ticklen=x0_ticklen
> ;plot x1 axis
> axis, x0_min, x1_min, yaxis=0 $
> , ytitle=x1_label $

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> , yticks=x1_ticks $
> , yminor=x1_minor $
> , ticklen=x1_ticklen
> if n_elements(time) ne 0 then begin
>   string_temp = 'T='+string(time)+'(s)'
>   string_temp = strcompress(string_temp,/remove_all)
>   XYOUTS, 0.1,0.9, string_temp, CHARSIZE=1.5,CHARTHICK=3, /normal
> endif
> ;-----plot remainings-----
>
> ;plot color bar
[color=blue]> plot ,[0.,1.],[colorbar_min,colorbar_max], /nodata, /noerase $[/color]
> , position=[cbx0,cby0,cbx1,cby1] $
> , xstyle=5,ystyle=5,title=""
>
> LoadCT, ict
> stretch ,ist_low,ist_high
> if n_elements(invct) ne 0 then stretch ,ist_high,ist_low
> print,'data_ist_low',data_ist_low
> print,'data_ist_high',data_ist_high
>
> xsize=(cbx1-cbx0)* !D.X_VSize
> ysize=(cby1-cby0)* !D.Y_VSize
> xstart=cbx0* !D.X_VSize
> ystart=cby0* !D.Y_VSize
>
> TVSCL , cb_arr,xstart,ystart,XSize=xsize,YSize=ysize
>
> LoadCT, 0
> stretch ,0,255
> ;-----plot y axis-----
> axis,1.,colorbar_min,yaxis=1 $
> ,ticklen=colorbar_ticklen $
> ,ytitle=cbby_title $
> ,yticks=cbby_ticknum $
> ,yminor=colorbar_minor
>
> ;-----
>
> ; here rendering to file is done. set back to screen defaults
> device, /close
> print,'Outputfile=', psoutfilename , ' done!'
> end
> =====
>
> Clearly in the above code, I use "dyrange" (Dynamical range, a 2-
> element factor contsinas(min,max) of desired data value range. ) as
> colorbar label. But the fielddata can be min(fielddata) > dyrange(0) or

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> max(fielddata) < dyrange(1).
> I use "stretch" to make sure the consistency between colorbar and
> fielddata colored contour. The output plots seems right. I just tried
> to make sure what i am doing is right.
>
> The colored contour in ypur web page is plottedby contour command. I
> remember that that command can only be used for levels < 60. That's
> why I use TVSCL instead of contour.
>
> Thanks for your refernces anyway

My point was only that all of this could be done (and in about half a dozen lines of code) without the use of TVSCL and STRETCH, which will tend to confuse you about color. But, maybe this is the least of your problems. Looks like you have things well in hand. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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