
Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 23 Jul 2010 17:46:26 GMT

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On Jul 23, 1:23 pm, Joe Daal <joe.d...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi,

>

> I am using the logscl to enhance the contrast of an image, something
> like:

>

> loadct,39

> image = alog10(lin_image)

> imdisp, logscl(image, min=min(image), max=max(image), Exponent=8,

> Mean=0.65)

>

> where image values vary from -1.34 to +2.05, with zeroes included.

> The image looks nice for what I want, but how do I reflect a correct

> colorbar, either for real values or the scaled ones? What is

> logarithmic, the ticks or the colors?

Hi,

I would argue for both.

Example using

http://hea-www.cfa.harvard.edu/~pgrigis/idl_stuff/pg_plotimage.pro
below will show different color bars.

```
;create color bar array
```

```
x=findgen(1000)
```

```
y=findgen(256)
```

```
z=rebin(x,1000,256)
```

```
;case 1: log axis and log colors - that's what you want
```

```
pg_plotimage,alog(z),x,y,xrange=[1,1000],/xlog,/ylog,yrange=[1,255],/  
xsty,/yst
```

```
;case 2: linear axis and log colors
```

```
;this is a "correct" but undesirable representation: the beholder of  
the plot will
```

```
;not be able to make out the colors for low values of the x axis
```

```
pg_plotimage,alog(z),x,y,xrange=[1,1000],/ylog,yrange=[1,255 ],/xsty,/yst
```

```
;case 3: linear axis and linear colors - this is what happens if you  
do not log scale the image
```

```
pg_plotimage,z,x,y,xrange=[1,1000],/ylog,yrange=[1,255],/xsty,/yst
```

;case 4: log axis and linear colors - this is what happens if you do
not log scale the image
;but is shown in a not particularly useful representation
pg_plotimage,z,x,y,xrange=[1,1000],/ylog,yrange=[1,255],/xst y,/yst,
xlog

Ciao,
Paolo
>
> Thanks,
> Joe

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 23 Jul 2010 19:38:48 GMT
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Joe Daal writes:

> I am using the logscl to enhance the contrast of an image, something
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>
> where image values vary from -1.34 to +2.05, with zeroes included.
> The image looks nice for what I want, but how do I reflect a correct
> colorbar, either for real values or the scaled ones? What is
> logarithmic, the ticks or the colors?

If you are going to display a color bar, wouldn't you
have to transform the color bar values in the same
way to transform the image?

I am thinking code like this:

```
.*****  
,  
image = LoadData(11)  
freqDomainImage = FFT(image, -1)  
power = SHIFT(ALOG(ABS(freqDomainImage)), 124, 124)  
power = power - Min(power)  
  
minmax, power  
ctload, 4, /brewer, /reverse  
tv!ct, r, g, b, /get
```

```

rr = scale_vector(float(r), min(power), max(power), $
  MIN=0, MAX=255)
gg = scale_vector(float(g), min(power), max(power), $
  MIN=0, MAX=255)
bb = scale_vector(float(b), min(power), max(power), $
  MIN=0, MAX=255)
rrr = logscl(rr, MEAN=0.45)
ggg = logscl(gg, MEAN=0.45)
bbb = logscl(bb, MEAN=0.45)
tv!ct, rrr, ggg, bbb
cindex

window, xsize=500, ysize=500, Title='Log Display'
TVImage, LogScl(power, MEAN=0.45), $
  position=[0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.75], /erase
colorbar, range=[min(power), Max(power)], $
  division=4, format='(f0.2)'

ctload, 4, /brewer, /reverse
window, 1, xsize=500, ysize=500, Title='Normal Display'
TVImage, BytScl(power), position=[0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.75], /erase
colorbar, range=[min(power), Max(power)], $
  division=4, format='(f0.2)'
END
,*****
,

```

Here are the results from running this program:

<http://www.dfanning.com/misc/logscl.png>

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.")

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 23 Jul 2010 19:51:35 GMT

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On Jul 23, 3:38 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Joe Daal writes:

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```

>> like:
>
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> minmax, power
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> tvlct, r, g, b, /get
> rr = scale_vector(float(r), min(power), max(power), $
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> gg = scale_vector(float(g), min(power), max(power), $
>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
> bb = scale_vector(float(b), min(power), max(power), $
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> ggg = logscl(gg, MEAN=0.45)
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> TVImage, BytScl(power), position=[0.1, 0.1, 0.9, 0.75], /erase

```

```
> colorbar, range=[min(power), Max(power)], $
>   division=4, format='(f0.2)'
> END
> ,*****
>
> Here are the results from running this program:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/misc/logscl.png
```

Hi David,
it looks like two different color tables have been used for the two
images:
the one on the left looks more green and the one on the right looks
more blue.
This makes it harder to see what is really going on.

I tried your commands with black and white colors, but the bar looks
then identical in both plots...

Ciao,
Paolo

```
>
> 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.")
```

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 23 Jul 2010 19:53:29 GMT
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On Jul 23, 3:51 pm, Paolo <pgri...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Jul 23, 3:38 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>
>
>

```

>> Joe Daal writes:
>>> I am using the logscl to enhance the contrast of an image, something
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>
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>>> logarithmic, the ticks or the colors?
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>
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>> power = power - Min(power)
>
>> minmax, power
>> ctload, 4, /brewer, /reverse
>> tvlct, r, g, b, /get
>> rr = scale_vector(float(r), min(power), max(power), $
>>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
>> gg = scale_vector(float(g), min(power), max(power), $
>>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
>> bb = scale_vector(float(b), min(power), max(power), $
>>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
>> rrr = logscl(rr, MEAN=0.45)
>> ggg = logscl(gg, MEAN=0.45)
>> bbb = logscl(bb, MEAN=0.45)
>> tvlct, rrr, ggg, bbb
>> cindex
>
>> window, xsize=500, ysize=500, Title='Log Display'
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>> colorbar, range=[min(power), Max(power)], $
>>   division=4, format='(f0.2)'
>
>> ctload, 4, /brewer, /reverse

```

```

>> window, 1, xsize=500, ysize=500, Title='Normal Display'
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>> colorbar, range=[min(power), Max(power)], $
>>   division=4, format='(f0.2)'
>> END
>> ,*****
>
>> Here are the results from running this program:
>
>> http://www.dfanning.com/misc/logscl.png
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> Hi David,
> it looks like two different color tables have been used for the two
> images:
> the one on the left looks more green and the one on the right looks
> more blue.
> This makes it harder to see what is really going on.
>
> I tried your commands with black and white colors, but the bar looks
> then identical in both plots...

```

OK - i see why - you scaled the colors and not the data.
Still I would argue that using log scaling should not alter the
original colors?

Ciao,
Paolo

```

>
> Ciao,
> Paolo
>
>
>
>> 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.")
>
>

```

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 23 Jul 2010 20:10:10 GMT
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And one last message for the day :)

The two color bars plotted here

http://hea-www.cfa.harvard.edu/~pgrigis/idl_stuff/colbars.png

represent the same color scaling of table 5 (stretched logarithmically)
but the linear representation does compress the "interesting" bits of the color bar quite strongly on the left side - while the log representation seems to do a better job of display the quick variation at the left end.

Ciao,
Paolo

On Jul 23, 3:38 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Joe Daal writes:

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>

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>

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> way to transform the image?

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> power = SHIFT(ALOG(ABS(freqDomainImage)), 124, 124)

> power = power - Min(power)

>

> minmax, power


```

> ctload, 4, /brewer, /reverse
> tvlct, r, g, b, /get
> rr = scale_vector(float(r), min(power), max(power), $
>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
> gg = scale_vector(float(g), min(power), max(power), $
>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
> bb = scale_vector(float(b), min(power), max(power), $
>   MIN=0, MAX=255)
> rrr = logscl(rr, MEAN=0.45)
> ggg = logscl(gg, MEAN=0.45)
> bbb = logscl(bb, MEAN=0.45)
> tvlct, rrr, ggg, bbb
> cindex
>
> window, xsize=500, ysize=500, Title='Log Display'
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> colorbar, range=[min(power), Max(power)], $
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> END
> .*****
> ,
>
> Here are the results from running this program:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/misc/logscl.png
>
> Cheers,
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> David
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> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
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> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

```

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
 Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 23 Jul 2010 20:32:18 GMT
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Paolo writes:

> The two color bars plotted here
>
> http://hea-www.cfa.harvard.edu/~pgrigis/idl_stuff/colbars.png
>
> represent the same color scaling of table 5 (stretched
> logarithmically)
> but the linear representation does compress the "interesting" bits
> of the color bar quite strongly on the left side - while the log
> representation seems to do a better job of display the quick variation
> at the left end.

Yes, I was hoping someone might have the definitive answer here, because this whole topic confuses me, too. I do know it is quite easy to produce "normal" log scaled data and color tables. It gets quite a bit harder, it seems to me, when using these fairly arbitrary log-scale functions.

Ah! Maybe it is like this:

```
tvlct, r, g, b, /get
rr = scale_vector(float(r), min(power), max(power), MIN=0, MAX=255)
gg = scale_vector(float(g), min(power), max(power), MIN=0, MAX=255)
bb = scale_vector(float(b), min(power), max(power), MIN=0, MAX=255)
rrr = logscl(rr, MEAN=0.45)
ggg = logscl(gg, MEAN=0.45)
bbb = logscl(bb, MEAN=0.45)
tvlct, r[rrr], g[ggg], b[bbb]
```

That probably makes more sense!

See the new results here:

http://www.dfanning.com/misc/logscl_new.png

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.")

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 24 Jul 2010 15:40:53 GMT
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Joe Daal writes:

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> colorbar, either for real values or the scaled ones? What is
> logarithmic, the ticks or the colors?
```

After thinking about this some more this morning, I decided I would write an article about it. Normally, when I write an article I am about 90% sure I know what I'm talking about. (My wife says I have been overly optimistic my whole life!)

In this case, it's more like 50%. But I figure the worst thing that could happen to me would be that I might learn something. ;-)

You can find the article here:

http://www.dfanning.com/ip_tips/logscaledbar.html

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.")

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Mon, 26 Jul 2010 14:59:43 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Jul 24, 11:40 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

```

> Joe Daal writes:
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> something. ;-)
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> You can find the article here:
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> http://www.dfanning.com/ip\_tips/logscaledbar.html
>

```

Well, let me try to explain my argument.

Basically, there are 2 (mutually exclusive) ways to proceed with this:

- a) rescaling the color tables
- b) rescaling the data

These 2 ways are **not** mathematically equivalent, as explained below. In general a) will lead to the rescaled image having (in some pixels) colors that were not present in the image before rescaling, while b) will not. Think of a) as being a more powerful transformation - but with great power come great responsibility as you all know :)

Personally I dislike a) creating new colors not present in the original image and therefore I stick to b).

Here the mathematical argument:

what we think of a "color table" is the combination of 2 operations.

The first is the process of assigning every pixel of the image an index between 0 and $N-1$ (N can be any number, 256 is often used but it's important to realize that this number is not tied to that). You can think of this as a function f going from the real numbers to $[0, 1, \dots, N-1]$.

The second is the process that assigns every index a color (in the case of the current hardware, a color is a triple of bytes R, G, B). This is a set of three functions R, G, B going from $[0, 1, \dots, N-1]$ to $[0, 1, \dots, 255]$. The fact that we have 256 shades for 3 main colors is fixed and limited by the hardware.

To display an image "im" we have to compute $R(f(im)), G(f(im)), B(f(im))$ for all pixels - this is what we mean by using a color table.

Now in case we are not happy with the result we can try rescaling using the a) or b) process.

The a) rescaling means we have functions R_2, G_2, B_2 that go from $[0, 1, \dots, 255]$ to $[0, 1, \dots, 255]$. We then display the image $R_2(R(f(im))), G_2(G(f(im))), B_2(B(f(im)))$. Depending on the details of R_2, G_2, B_2 it's quite easy to create new colors by this transformation (why? because there are only N different triples before the transformation, and 16777216 (!) different triples that they can be transformed into).

The b) rescaling means we have a function h that goes from $[0, 1, \dots, N-1]$ to $[0, 1, \dots, N-1]$. We then display the image $R(h(f(im))), G(h(f(im))), B(h(f(im)))$. Because the R, G, B functions themselves are not changed, the new image can only consist of colors in the color table (i.e. no new colors will appear).

That sums it up... Hopefully this helps shed some light (or muddle

up the water even more instead).

Ciao,
Paolo

> 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.")

Subject: Re: Fanning's LogScl routine + Colorbar??
Posted by [Joe Daal](#) on Thu, 29 Jul 2010 03:47:53 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Jul 26, 9:59 am, Paolo <pgri...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Jul 24, 11:40 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>
>
>
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 > is a set of three functions R, G, B going from $[0,1,\dots,N-1]$ to
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 > $[0,1,\dots,N-1]$. We then display the image
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 > can only
 > consist of colors in the color table (i.e. no new colors will appear).
 >
 > That sums it up... Hopefully this helps shed some light (or muddle
 > up the water even more instead).
 >
 > Ciao,
 > Paolo
 >
 >> 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.")
>
>
```

Paolo and David,

This thread clarified it all. Thank you so much!
I'd go with scaling the data instead of color scaling.

Cheers,
-Joe
