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Subject: Re: color printing  
Posted by [afl](#) on Fri, 04 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <3vt29e\$5f1@alster.dkrz.de>, coelke@awi-bremerhaven.de (Christoph Oelke) writes:

```
|> Hello,  
|> I'm looking for a way to produce post-script files of a high  
|> quality with IDL. So far I produced my window (tv,...)  
|> and saved the contents with tvrd(), displayed it in print  
|> mode with tv,<window-save> and thus produced a ps-file.  
|> But the quality of this method is not great.  
|>
```

Here is an example...

```
IDL> loadct, 40  
IDL> set_plot, 'ps'  
IDL> device, /color ! Check manual for numerous options  
IDL> contour,dist(20),c_colors=indgen(22)*12,nlevels=20,/cell_fil l,/xs,/ys  
IDL> device, /close  
IDL> set_plot, 'X'
```

PRINT OR VIEW idl.ps

--

Andrew F. Loughe	email: afl@cdc.noaa.gov
University of Colorado, CIRES	voice: (303) 492-0707
Campus Box 449	fax: (303) 497-7013
Boulder, CO 80309-0449 USA	

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Subject: Re: color printing  
Posted by [rep2857](#) on Mon, 07 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <4059va\$2bn@post.gsfc.nasa.gov>,  
Joel D. Offenbergl <offenbrg@fondue.gsfc.nasa.gov> wrote:  
> coelke@awi-bremerhaven.de (Christoph Oelke) writes:

A quick note on something I just had trouble with an hour ago relating to set\_plot, tvlct and PS files. I have a PV-Wave application that has a section which allows multiple printers to be selected and to indicate whether the printer is capable of displaying color, as well. If I select a b/w printer, but select a toggle indicating it could do color (never trust a user to the right thing), I would get large bands (1/4 to 1/3 the entire page) of black on the printout. I would also get

shaded lines and symbols in the plot area, which is what I had hoped to see. It turns out that the tvlct calls would screw up the output if placed between the set\_plot calls. When they are moved to outside the set\_plot calls everything works as expected (on color and b/w printers, regardless of the color on/off toggle). I guess the tvlct call gets translated into some kind of PS command when done within the set\_plot, commands. I suspect this is the same with IDL. Has anyone else run into this?

```
> setplot,'ps'  
...  
> tvclt,19
```

I'd suggest switching the position of these two lines.

P.S. Joel, any idea if Hughes STX is still looking for IDL programmers?

Mike Schienle                      Hughes Santa Barbara Research Center  
Home: mgs@seldon.terminus.com      Work: rep2857@sbsun0010.sbrc.hac.com  
Contract Employee - Will visualize data for large amounts of money

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Subject: Re: color printing  
Posted by [offenbrg](#) on Mon, 07 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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coelke@awi-bremerhaven.de (Christoph Oelke) writes:

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> But the quality of this method is not great.
```

What I do is this:

```
setplot,'ps'  
device,/color,bits=8 ;...and whatever other DEVICE options you want
```

```
tvclt,19  
tv,blahblah  
oplot,blabhlhla ;Basically do whatever I did to get it to appear  
;in my TV window in the first place. One hint:  
;Do everything in normalized or data coordinates...  
;device coordinates are strange for PostScript.
```

```
device,/close
```

\$lpr -Pcolorprinter idl.ps

You'll get much better-looking output than you would do otherwise. I also often use true-color images (i.e. 3-plane RGB images) when I'm combining images into one, so I'm not limited to one color table.

Joel

--

"...And I am unanimous in this" - Mrs. Slocumbe

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| Joel D Offenberg | offenbrg@fondue.gsfc.nasa.gov |  
| Hughes STX, NASA/GSFC/LASP | I get paid to stare into space. |

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Subject: Re: color printing

Posted by [soc](#) on Thu, 10 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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Andy Loughe (afl@cdc.noaa.gov) wrote:

: In article <3vt29e\$5f1@alster.dkrz.de>, coelke@awi-bremerhaven.de (Christoph  
: Oelke) writes:

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: PRINT OR VIEW idl.ps

Just to add - one of the numerous options is the number of bits, and for high quality you'll want to increase the default from 4 to 8 with device,bits=8

Rob O'Connell

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