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Subject: Re: problem with color table, everything is red  
Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 19 Nov 2012 10:24:33 GMT  
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On Monday, November 19, 2012 11:13:37 AM UTC+1, simona bellavista wrote:

> I am having a hard time understanding colors in IDL. I am working on  
>  
> x11 (linux).  
>  
> I would be glad if someone can give me some tips about colors and  
>  
> color tables.  
>  
>  
>  
> when I try to load rainbow color table and display it with  
>  
>  
>  
> loadct, 13  
>  
> tv, dist(300)  
>  
>  
>  
> I always get a color panel that is in grey scale, I have tried to load  
>  
> several color tables, but the resulting color panel I get is always in  
>  
> shade of greys.  
>  
>  
>  
> Moreover, if I try to plot different part of my graphics with  
>  
> different colors, using something like this:  
>  
>  
>  
> for i=0,n-1 do begin  
>  
>   indx = start[i] + indgen(start[i+1]-start[i])  
>  
>   color = floor(i \*255 / float(nlines))  
>  
>   oplot,x[indx],y[indx],color=color  
>  
> endfor

>  
>  
>  
> I get my plot in shades of reds. I tried cgplot and it is the same.  
>  
>  
>  
> then in a subsequent plot I try to revert to black and white, and I  
>  
> use  
>  
>  
>  
> plot, xx, yy,color=255, psym=2, symsize=2,  
>  
>  
>  
> but everything turn red.  
>  
>  
>  
> where shall I start?

Hi,  
this is generally a good place to start from: <http://www.idlcoyote.com>  
But specifically you are looking for this:  
[http://www.idlcoyote.com/misc/tg\\_working\\_with\\_color.pdf](http://www.idlcoyote.com/misc/tg_working_with_color.pdf)

On page 34 there are some extra Linux tips.

Then you should learn about the  
Device, Decompose=1  
command.

You will soon enough find out that not everything in IDL is grayscale and red :-)

Cheers,  
Helder

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Subject: Re: problem with color table, everything is red  
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Mon, 19 Nov 2012 16:46:42 GMT  
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On 11/19/12 5:24 AM, Helder wrote:  
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```

I would also highly recommend David's graphics book:  
[http://www.amazon.com/Coyotes-Guide-Traditional-IDL-Graphics/dp/0966238354/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1353343563&sr=8-1&keywords=david+fanning](http://www.amazon.com/Coyotes-Guide-Traditional-IDL-Graphics/dp/0966238354/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1353343563&sr=8-1&keywords=david+fanning)

-Jeremy.

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