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Subject: Re: No colors when plotting  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 12 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
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Burke Prause <bprause@campra.phys.nd.edu> writes:

- > I run IDL on a Sun Ultra1, model 170E, Creator3D. When plotting data
- > (eg. any of the routines described in chapter 14 of the user guide)
- > I can only get black and white output. The "colors = ...." seems to have
- > no effect. I can use colortables for image visualization.
- >
- > Does anybody have suggestions where the problem might be?

Sounds strange. I'd like to know how many colors IDL  
\*thinks\* it is using:

```
IDL> Print, !D.N_Colors
```

I'm going to guess that the answer is over 256. If it is,  
start up IDL and before you do anything else, type this:

```
IDL> Device, Pseudo=8
```

See if that helps.

Cheers!

David

-----  
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Subject: Re: No colors when plotting  
Posted by [Tim Patterson](#) on Thu, 13 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
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burkhard prause wrote:

- >
- > I run IDL on a Sun Ultra1, model 170E, Creator3D. When plotting data
- > (eg. any of
- > the routines described in chapter 14 of the user guide) I can only get

> black and white output. The "colors = ...." seems to have no effect. I  
> can use colortables for image visualization.  
>  
> Does anybody have suggestions where the problem might be?  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Burke  
> --

Can you post a sample of the code that shows this behaviour?

What happens if you make a plot and then run Xpalette to change the colour tables interactively. Does it still remain in black and white or can you change the colours?

Tim

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Subject: Re: No colors when plotting  
Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Thu, 13 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
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burkhard prause wrote:

> I run IDL on a Sun Ultra1, model 170E, Creator3D. When plotting data  
> (eg. any of  
> the routines described in chapter 14 of the user guide) I can only get  
> black and white output. The "colors = ...." seems to have no effect. I  
> can use colortables for image visualization.  
> Does anybody have suggestions where the problem might be?

Here's an idea:

If you are using the Common Desktop Environment (CDE), it may be grabbing almost all of the available colors for itself. At the bottom of your desktop, you should see a row of icons. Select the one on the right that shows a color palette. Then select the 'Colors', 'Number of colors' option. Check 'More for Applications'. Then restart IDL.

Of course, it could be something else.

Cheers,  
Liam.

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Subject: Re: No colors when plotting

David Fanning wrote:

- > Sounds strange. I'd like to know how many colors IDL
- > \*thinks\* it is using:
- >
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- > I'm going to guess that the answer is over 256. If it is,
- > start up IDL and before you do anything else, type this:
- >
- > IDL> Device, Pseudo=8
- >
- > See if that helps.
- >

Sorry to say that it is 256. Good suggestion, though. I thought that that was the problem, just didn't know how to check.

Guess for the time being I'm stuck in monochrome (at least for plotting).

Thanks,

Burke

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