Subject: Re: 16-bit color in IDL/Linux

Posted by tdarnell on Wed, 20 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <33F9CE8B.14@cougar.jpl.nasa.gov>, Mike Ressler <ressler@cougar.jpl.nasa.gov> writes:

- > I'm sure this has been asked before, but I couldn't find anything
- > in the FAQ or any of the IDL Web pages I know about. Can IDL be
- > made to work with a 16-bit TrueColor visual in the Linux version?

I've only just begun using LINUX on my PC so I am certainly no expert there, however, perhaps I can offer something useful on the IDL side. As you probably know, IDL selects the visual class the first time it connects to the X server. Since you seem pretty sure about the color levels the server is using, the problem is one of making IDL see it when it first creates a window. I presume you are using XFree86 along with some window manager, so I would start by making a startup procedure that IDL executes everytime you enter it with the following in it:

DEVICE,True_Color=24 ;DEVICE,Direct_Color=24 ;DEVICE,pseudo_color=8 ;WINDOW,XSIZE=512,YSIZE=512,COLORS=256 ;WINDOW,XSIZE=512,YSIZE=512,COLORS=2L^24 WINDOW,XSIZE=512,YSIZE=512,COLORS=256 WDELETE

HELP,/DEVICE

You can then uncomment out the lines (this is my start.pro) to experiment with different visual classes to see if one works. Unfortunately I don't believe you can say DEVICE,TRUE_COLOR=16, but I could be wrong, I've never tried it. Try a color level less that 16, say the pseudo_color=8 mode to make sure there are colors to spare and then go up. The window manager you are using might even support direct_color.

If none of this worked, I'd be inclined to try another window manager because there are so many available for LINUX. I'm sure there is a problem with what IDL expects to get from it and what it is actually getting.

If none of this works, my apologies, I hope you'll post what actually ended up working, along with your setup (window manager, etc) because I'll be shifting to LINUX soon. :-)

HTH,

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Subject: Re: 16-bit color in IDL/Linux
Posted by Robert S. Mallozzi on Fri, 22 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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Mike Ressler wrote:

> Hello,

>

- > I'm sure this has been asked before, but I couldn't find anything
- > in the FAQ or any of the IDL Web pages I know about. Can IDL be
- > made to work with a 16-bit TrueColor visual in the Linux version?
- > A colleague asked me about this and I had no more success than he
- > did in making it work. We would both start X with a 16-bit visual
- > (verified by xwininfo and running image display things like xv),
- > but as soon as we tried to display an image with tv in IDL, it
- > would seg fault and dump us back at the unix prompt.

>

- > We are both running IDL 5.0 I've got Redhat Linux with the 2.0.30
- > kernel, he has Caldera with presumably the same kernel. Any advice,
- > tricks, or confirmation that it just plain won't work will be
- > greatly appreciated. Thanks.

>

I put this in my .Xdefaults. It allows plots and widgets, but image routinessuch as SHADE_SURF will not work correctly. If anyone has succeeded in getting full IDL functionality at 16bpp, I would like to hear about it.

-bob

IDL

#

For 16 bpp

idl.visual: PseudoColor
IDL backing store

idl.retain: 2

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Dr. Robert S. Mallozzi University of Alabama in Huntsville http://cspar.uah.edu/~mallozzir/