Subject: Re: odd behavior of loadct
Posted by davidf on Mon, 15 Jun 1998 07:00:00 GMT

John Boccio (boccio@swarthmore.edu) writes:

> System = Powermacintosh
> IDL V5.1
>
> cd, 'Public Area HD:Codes'
> DEVICE, RETAIN=2, DECOMPOSED=0
>
> z=dist(40)
> shade_surf,z   --> draws in gray shades
> loadct,37   --> no change
> shade_surf,z   --> changes to colortable 37
>
> Isn't suppose to change the surface colortable when
> I issue the loadct command rather than waiting for a redraw?

This sounds like perfectly normal 16- or 24-bit color
behavior in IDL 5.1 on a Macintosh. See the article
"Yikes. Has 24-bit color handling changed in IDL 5.1?"
on my web page for details. Use your Display control
panel to get your Mac in 256 color mode and you will have
no trouble.

> If I run DEMO first, then loadct works when I issue the command.

Don't know what they are doing here, but I bet they
get you into 256 color mode somehow. My Mac is gone
today, so I can't try it. Check your Display control panel
after the demo runs. How many colors to you have?

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Phone: 970-221-0438
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Subject: Re: odd behavior of loadct

Posted by davidf on Fri, 19 Jun 1998 07:00:00 GMT

Joseph B. Gurman (gurman@ari.net) writes:

>   The other day, I installed 5.1 on my home Power Center Pro running OS
> 8.1, and a funny thing happened (at least, something that didn't happen
> under 5.0.3): a routine
> that calls LOADCT and then CW_ANIMATE produced only grey-scale movies
> until I set the graphics... option under the Edit -> Preferences menu item
> to "Pseudo (8-bit)."
>
>   I can still get any 256 colors I want, but why this change?

To make the Mac and PC's work the way the UNIX platforms work.
It has been done in the name of cross-platform compatibility.
A laudable goal in my view, but in the short term it will be
a pain in the neck until we get used to it. For more details
see the article "Yikes, 24-bit color handling change in IDL 5.1?"
on my web page:

   http://www.dfanning.com/documents/tips/24bit_color_idl51.htm l

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Phone: 970-221-0438
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Subject: Re: odd behavior of loadct
Posted by gurman on Fri, 19 Jun 1998 07:00:00 GMT

In article <35867171.499@rosa.mpin-koeln.mpg.de>, Alex Schuster
<alex@rosa.mpin-koeln.mpg.de> wrote:

> David Fanning wrote:
>
>> Alex Schuster (alex@rosa.mpin-koeln.mpg.de) writes:
>>
>>> David Fanning was WRONG:
>

> Oops... mabe I forgot a smiley here :)
>
>>>> on my web page for details. Use your Display control
>>>> panel to get your Mac in 256 color mode and you will have
>>>> no trouble.
>>>
>>> But: Having only 256 colors _is_ trouble!
>>
>> Wrong!? If my theory was right (and remember I couldn't
>> test it) and the IDL demo actually put John's Mac in 256
>> color mode and left it there. _And John couldn't tell the
>> difference_. Then where is the trouble? :-)
>
> The trouble is the missing 16776960 colors :-)
> Really, I want my workstation to display as much colors as I want. Okay,
> about 32000 colors would be enough for me, but 256 just is too few.
>
> And I would be surprised if IDL somehow could change the color depth on
> the Mac. However, I just tried what John wrote, and even running the
> demo first didn't help. Strange...
>

   The other day, I installed 5.1 on my home Power Center Pro running OS
8.1, and a funny thing happened (at least, something that didn't happen
under 5.0.3): a routine
that calls LOADCT and then CW_ANIMATE produced only grey-scale movies
until I set the graphics... option under the Edit -> Preferences menu item
to "Pseudo (8-bit)."

   I can still get any 256 colors I want, but why this change?

                         Joe Gurman

--
Joseph B. Gurman / NASA Goddard Space Flight Center/ Solar Data
 Analysis Center / Code 682 / Greenbelt MD 20771 USA / Federal
employees are still prohibited from holding opinions while at work.
Any opinions expressed herein must therefore be someone else's.