
Subject: xwindows colour issues

Posted by [Gary Beard](#) on Thu, 10 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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I'm working with IDL version 4.0.1 (OSF alpha) under UNIX through xwindows from Windows NT. I'm finding the use of colour tables highly problematic at the moment. I'd like to run NT with more than 256 colours, but this seems to confuse IDL's implementation of colour table values. Is there a book or a web page that could help me with this. The manuals are woefully inadequate on the subject.

Subject: Re: xwindows colour issues

Posted by [Phillip & Suzanne](#) on Thu, 10 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Gary Beard wrote:

- > I'd like to run NT with more than 256 colours, but this seems to
- > confuse IDL's implementation of colour table values.

Gary;

Another option available to you is to run NT with your large number of colors, but set your X emulation software to use only 256 colors. In this way, IDL will think it only has 256 colors, but your NT apps can use all the colors. This is the easiest solution that we suggest to our users.

Phillip David

Subject: Re: xwindows colour issues

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 11 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Rose (rmlongfield@my-dejanews.com) writes:

- > I found the color discussion in January 1998 edition pretty good and would be
- > interested in seeing any improvement. Any chance of getting the updated
- > discussion without buying another book :)

I know there are a number of people out there who are "thinking" about writing a book about IDL. But since

I'm the only one who has really done so, let me give you a piece of advice: the only way you are **ever** going to get a book written is to sit down and write **something**.

For me, what usually comes out is stupid, poorly written, and complete nonsense. This becomes (after some effort) an article on my web page, which gets pulverized by kind readers who delight in pointing out the obvious errors.

After several rounds of this, you have a chapter in your book! :-)

Anyway, this is the long way around to say that you can read all about color issues in IDL 5.1 in this article on my web page:

http://www.dfanning.com/tips/24bit_color_idl51.html

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say, if you can't take the heat, you ain't gonna be writtin any books. :-)

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: xwindows colour issues
Posted by [rmlongfield](#) on Fri, 11 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <MPG.106161b83c2b2a9f9896aa@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:
Explaining color handling
> in more detail was one of the major updates in the fourth
> printing of the book, which just returned from the printers
> this week.

I found the color discussion in January 1998 edition pretty good and would be interested in seeing any improvement. Any chance of getting the updated discussion without buying another book :)

Rose

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