
Subject: Re: Widget color tables

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Mon, 15 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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throop@colorado.edu wrote:

```
> I'm having problems setting the color table properly in a widget
> program. IDL 5.2, sparc ultra, 8-bit display. Here's the situation:
> o The problem is that the loadct command appears to be completely
> ignored; the color table is just not set, or at least not displayed.
> Instead, my default desktop color table is used. help, /device tells
> me that indeed a 100-element private color map is assigned.
> o I've found that if, before or after the widget is realized,
> I create a non-widget window:
> and move the cursor _into that window_, the color table for the widget
> will be properly displayed and updated, as long as the cursor's in
> that window. It appears that idl may be setting the color table
> properly, but only displaying it when the cursor is in a draw window,
> and not when the cursor's in a widget window.
> | Henry Throop throop@colorado.edu (303) 492-1628 |
> | Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics |
> | University of Colorado, Boulder 80309-0392 |
```

The following IDL startup file should be an effective cure for this problem:

```
;---cut here---
```

```
;- Set up 8 bit display and grab colors
```

```
if !version.os_family eq 'unix' then device, pseudo = 8
```

```
device, retain = 2, decomposed = 0
```

```
window, /free, /pixmap, colors = -5
```

```
plot, [ 0 ]
```

```
wdelete, !d.window
```

```
print, 'Number of colors is ', !d.n_colors
```

```
;- Set graphics and widget font sizes
```

```
device, set_character_size = [ 6, 9 ]
```

```
widget_control, default_font = '7x13'
```

```
;- ensure IDL 5.0 XMANAGER behavior is consistent with IDL 4.0
```

```
xmanager, catch = 0
```

```
;---cut here---
```

Just set the environment variable IDL_STARTUP to the full name and path of the startup file. It will then be executed every time you start IDL.

Cheers,
Liam.
PS Didn't IDL get started at LASP way back when?

Liam E. Gumley
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<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: Widget color tables
Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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throop@colorado.edu wrote:

- > Thanks -- but it doesn't work; I get the same behavior.
- > In both cases, IDL really does seem to be allocating the
- > color table -- it's just not swapping it in at the proper time.

A couple of things to try:

(1) How many colors does the startup file report, just after you start IDL?

(2) On Sun boxes which use the CDE desktop, the default 'Colors' setting may not allow IDL to allocate enough colors. On the CDE taskbar, click on the icon which shows a color palette. Then select 'Colors', 'Number of Colors', 'Most Colors for Applications'. I think you'll need to logout and log back in for the changes to take effect.

Does this make any difference?

Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: Widget color tables
Posted by [throop](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <36ED957B.2D06B714@ssec.wisc.edu>,
Liam Gumley <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:
> throop@colorado.edu wrote:

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Thanks -- but it doesn't work; I get the same behavior.
In both cases, IDL really _does_ seem to be allocating the
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-Henry

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| Henry Throop  throop@colorado.edu  (303) 492-1628 |
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| Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics      |
| University of Colorado, Boulder    80309-0392    |
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