
Subject: Colors again!

Posted by [Harald Frey](#) on Tue, 22 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi all,

colors are driving me crazy in IDL. But please, do not answer the problem would go with device,decomposed=0. It's not true, at least not in this case. I'm working in

```
IDL> print,!version  
{ sparc sunos unix 5.1 Apr 13 1998}
```

My idl_startup.pro file contains the device,decomposed=0 line and after starting IDL I get the information

```
IDL> print, 'Number of colors is ', !d.n_colors  
Number of colors is      256  
IDL> plot,findgen(200)  
IDL> print,!d.n_colors  
      106
```

After any plot command the number of available colors is cut by more than half, and this number changes from day to day between 118 and 104, maybe depending on the weather. Everything changes if I start a second IDL session in parallel. If I forget about the first session, I can always work with 256 colors in the second session. The only real pain is that the screen becomes completely black whenever I work in a plot-window. Clicking back into the terminal window gives me the screen back, but then the colors in the plot window are complete garbage.

It may be a problem of my machine and not of IDL. If I force my CDE Style Manager-Color to "Most Colors for Applications" then I get 211 colors in IDL but the screen looks very colorless. Right now it is set to "More Colors for Applications".

I work primarily with images and even if I don't really need all 256 colors I would like to have something like 200 fixed for all sessions.

Any suggestions?

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