Subject: can't change colortable in current window (linux bpp24)
Posted by Olivier ARCHER on Fri, 16 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

when i load a color table with loadct *after* opening a window, nothing
happen. here a piece of code producing the error:

```
device,decompose=0
window,/free && tv,dist(400)  ;; picture in B/W
loadct,4                      ;; this have no effect in the current
window ( no error messages )
window,/free && tv,dist(400)  ;; picture in color; loadct effect...
```

this fail on a linux rh6 , with dpyinfo saying that my X serveur is
TrueColor, with 24 plane depth
this work on solaris(creator 3D graphics card) , with dpyinfo saying
that my X serveur support various combination of class/depth.

I think this is a X specific problem, i've try idl 5.2 and 5.1 for linux
and solaris, and from a linux console and a sun console.

Any idea to get around the problem ?

Subject: Re: can't change colortable in current window (linux bpp24)
Posted by J.D. Smith on Mon, 19 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

David Fanning wrote:
>
> Liam Gumley (Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu) writes:
>
>> I just tried starting IDL on a colleague's laptop running AcceleratedX
>> V4.1 in 16 bpp mode. It refused to run IDL in PseudoColor (8-bit) mode,
>> and started in TrueColor mode instead (I verified this using 'device,
>> get_visual_name=name' to check it wasn't in DirectColor mode). The
>> commands
>>
>> device, decomp=0, retain=2
>> loadct, 0
>> tvscl, dist(256)
>>
>> gave a strange rainbow of colors, which did not change when I clicked on
>> the graphics window. I'm going to have to investigate this further, but
>> it looks like starting the Linux X server with either
>>
>> startx -- -bpp 8

>>
>> or
>>
>> startx -- -bpp 24
>>
>> is required for reliable IDL operation under Linux. If anyone knows
>> otherwise, please let me know.
>
> As far as I know, IDL on Linux has *never* been supported in
> 16-bit mode. Nor have I ever heard any plans for it to be so
> supported. I think these are the only two valid options.

He's talking about using an 8-bit pseudo overlay in an otherwise 24-bit environment... as can be done on all SGI's, for instance. Many video cards can do this, but Linux software support of this feature is a bit lacking.

JD

--
J.D. Smith |*| WORK: (607) 255-5842
Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy |*| (607) 255-6263
304 Space Sciences Bldg. |*| FAX: (607) 255-5875
Ithaca, NY 14853 |*|

Subject: Re: can't change colortable in current window (linux bpp24)
Posted by J.D. Smith on Mon, 19 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Liam Gumley wrote:
>
> "J.D. Smith" wrote:
>> I believe Xi graphics makes a product called AccelX which purports to do
>> overlays. I've never seen that for myself, but they claim it's true
>> (http://www.xigraphics.com/). Let me know if you find anything out.
>
> I just tried starting IDL on a colleague's laptop running AcceleratedX
> V4.1 in 16 bpp mode. It refused to run IDL in PseudoColor (8-bit) mode,
> and started in TrueColor mode instead (I verified this using 'device,
> get_visual_name=name' to check it wasn't in DirectColor mode). The
> commands
>
> device, decomp=0, retain=2
> loadct, 0
> tvscl, dist(256)
>
> gave a strange rainbow of colors, which did not change when I clicked on

> the graphics window. I'm going to have to investigate this further, but
> it looks like starting the Linux X server with either
>
> startx -- -bpp 8
>
> or
>
> startx -- -bpp 24
>
> is required for reliable IDL operation under Linux. If anyone knows
> otherwise, please let me know.
>
> Cheers,
> Liam.

X. G. makes two products: a laptop and a desktop X server. The laptop version does not support overlays (as I just found out on their web site). The desktop version does, on most hardware it supports which can do them. I tried the demo version with some success (though a wierd hangup or two), on my Permedia II based video system.

Good Luck,

JD
--
J.D. Smith |*| WORK: (607) 255-5842
Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy |*| (607) 255-6263
304 Space Sciences Bldg. |*| FAX: (607) 255-5875
Ithaca, NY 14853 |*|

Subject: Re: can't change colortable in current window (linux bpp24)
Posted by davidf on Mon, 19 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Liam Gumley (Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu) writes:

> I just tried starting IDL on a colleague's laptop running AcceleratedX
> V4.1 in 16 bpp mode. It refused to run IDL in PseudoColor (8-bit) mode,
> and started in TrueColor mode instead (I verified this using 'device,
> get_visual_name=name' to check it wasn't in DirectColor mode). The
> commands
>
> device, decomp=0, retain=2
> loadct, 0
> tvscl, dist(256)
>
> gave a strange rainbow of colors, which did not change when I clicked on

> the graphics window. I'm going to have to investigate this further, but
> it looks like starting the Linux X server with either
>
> startx -- -bpp 8
>
> or
>
> startx -- -bpp 24
>
> is required for reliable IDL operation under Linux. If anyone knows
> otherwise, please let me know.

As far as I know, IDL on Linux has *never* been supported in
16-bit mode. Nor have I ever heard any plans for it to be so
supported. I think these are the only two valid options.

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: can't change colortable in current window (linux bpp24)
Posted by Liam Gumley on Mon, 19 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

"J.D. Smith" wrote:
> I believe Xi graphics makes a product called AccelX which purports to do
> overlays. I've never seen that for myself, but they claim it's true
> (http://www.xigraphics.com/). Let me know if you find anything out.

I just tried starting IDL on a colleague's laptop running AcceleratedX
V4.1 in 16 bpp mode. It refused to run IDL in PseudoColor (8-bit) mode,
and started in TrueColor mode instead (I verified this using 'device,
get_visual_name=name' to check it wasn't in DirectColor mode). The
commands

```
device, decomp=0, retain=2
loadct, 0
tvscl, dist(256)
```

gave a strange rainbow of colors, which did not change when I clicked on

the graphics window. I'm going to have to investigate this further, but
it looks like starting the Linux X server with either

startx -- -bpp 8

or

startx -- -bpp 24

is required for reliable IDL operation under Linux. If anyone knows
otherwise, please let me know.

Cheers,
Liam.

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

Subject: Re: can't change colortable in current window (linux bpp24)
Posted by David R. Klassen on Tue, 20 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

"J.D. Smith" wrote:
>
> David Fanning wrote:
>>
>> Liam Gumley (Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu) writes:
>>
>>> I just tried starting IDL on a colleague's laptop running AcceleratedX
>>> V4.1 in 16 bpp mode. It refused to run IDL in PseudoColor (8-bit) mode,
>>> and started in TrueColor mode instead (I verified this using 'device,
>>> get_visual_name=name' to check it wasn't in DirectColor mode). The
>>> commands
>>>
>>> device, decomp=0, retain=2
>>> loadct, 0
>>> tvscl, dist(256)
>>>
>>> gave a strange rainbow of colors, which did not change when I clicked on
>>> the graphics window. I'm going to have to investigate this further, but
>>> it looks like starting the Linux X server with either
>>>
>>> startx -- -bpp 8
>>>
>>> or

>>>
>>> startx -- -bpp 24
>>>
>>> is required for reliable IDL operation under Linux. If anyone knows
>>> otherwise, please let me know.
>>
>> As far as I know, IDL on Linux has *never* been supported in
>> 16-bit mode. Nor have I ever heard any plans for it to be so
>> supported. I think these are the only two valid options.
>
> He's talking about using an 8-bit pseudo overlay in an otherwise 24-bit
> environment... as can be done on all SGI's, for instance. Many video
> cards can do this, but Linux software support of this feature is a bit
> lacking.
>
> JD
>
> --
>   J.D. Smith |*| WORK: (607) 255-5842
>   Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy |*| (607) 255-6263
>   304 Space Sciences Bldg. |*| FAX: (607) 255-5875
>   Ithaca, NY 14853 |*|

This is odd...when I was testing things for my use under linux I put the
following lines in my .Xdefaults file:
 ! IDL defaults
 idlde.colors: 256
 Idl.colors: 256
 idl.gr_visual: PseudoColor
 idl.gr_depth: 8
and I get 8-bit color windows under 24-bit displays. Granted, I did
that
test awhile ago so my memory may be slipping a bit.

I don't like the 1280x1024 resolution I get with 24-bit so I run in
16-bit at 1600x1200 and run IDL under a second X session by opening an
xterm and typing:
 alias 8bit='startx .xinitrc.8bit -- :1 -bpp 8 &'
The file .xinitrc.8bit is used so the default window manager (KDE) is
not used on :1 as it interferes with the K running on :0 so I run
just a barebones twm on :1. For completeness, the .xinirc.8bit is:
 nxterm -n IDL_EDIT -fn 9x15 -geom 95x52+200+20 -fg black -bg
LightYellow &
 nxterm -n WORK_DIR -fn 9x15 -geom 95x52+10+280 -fg black -bg
LightYellow &
 nxterm -n IDL_RUN -fn 9x15 -geom 95x52+655+220 -fg black -bg
LightGoldenrod &
 twm -d :1

(the colors are so that when I get the color flash I can still sorta
read text in
the window - it's not perfect and needs tweaking...)

--
David R. Klassen
Department of Chemistry & Physics
Rowan University
201 Mullica Hill Road
Glassboro, NJ 08028

856-256-4500 x3273

http://elvis.rowan.edu/~klassen/
klassen@rowan.edu
