

Understanding fbdev's cmap

These notes explain how X's dix layer uses fbdev's cmap structures.

- example of relevant structures in fbdev as used for a 3-bit grayscale cmap:

```
struct fb_var_screeninfo {
    .bits_per_pixel = 8,
    .grayscale       = 1,
    .red =           { 4, 3, 0 },
    .green =         { 0, 0, 0 },
    .blue =          { 0, 0, 0 },
}
struct fb_fix_screeninfo {
    .visual =        FB_VISUAL_STATIC_PSEUDOCOLOR,
}
for (i = 0; i < 8; i++)
    info->cmap.red[i] = (((2*i)+1)*(0xFFFF))/16;
memcpy(info->cmap.green, info->cmap.red, sizeof(u16)*8);
memcpy(info->cmap.blue, info->cmap.red, sizeof(u16)*8);
```

- X11 apps do something like the following when trying to use grayscale:

```
for (i=0; i < 8; i++) {
    char colorspec[64];
    memset(colorspect,0,64);
    sprintf(colorspect, "rgb:%x/%x/%x", i*36,i*36,i*36);
    if (!XParseColor(outputDisplay, testColormap, colorspec, &wantedColor))
        printf("Can't get color %s\n",colorspect);
    XAllocColor(outputDisplay, testColormap, &wantedColor);
    grays[i] = wantedColor;
}
```

There's also named equivalents like gray1..x provided you have an rgb.txt.

Somewhere in X's callchain, this results in a call to X code that handles the colormap. For example, Xfbdev hits the following:

xc-011010/programs/Xserver/dix/colormap.c:

```
FindBestPixel(pentFirst, size, prgb, channel)

dr = (long) pent->co.local.red - prgb->red;
dg = (long) pent->co.local.green - prgb->green;
db = (long) pent->co.local.blue - prgb->blue;
sq = dr * dr;
UnsignedToBigNum (sq, &sum);
BigNumAdd (&sum, &temp, &sum);
```

co.local.red are entries that were brought in through FBIOGETCMAP which come directly from the info->cmap.red that was listed above. The prgb is the rgb that the app wants to match to. The above code is doing what looks like a least squares matching function. That's why the cmap entries can't be set to the left hand side boundaries of a color range.