

# Scientific colour maps

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[www.fabiocrameri.ch/colourmaps](http://www.fabiocrameri.ch/colourmaps)

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## Acknowledgement

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Please acknowledge the free use of the colour map.

e.g., "The perceptually-uniform colour map **berlin** is used in this study to prevent visual distortion of the data (Crameri 2018a,b)."

*Crameri, Fabio. (2018, May 8). Scientific colour maps (Version 3.0.0). Zenodo.  
<http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1243863>*

*Crameri, F. (2018b, in open review), Geodynamic diagnostics, scientific visualisation and StagLab 3.0, Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., doi:10.5194/gmd-2017-328*

## Instructions

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### Using the .mat Format (MatLab)

Load the colour map into MatLab, either by adding the .mat file to the MatLab search path and using the command:

```
load('berlin.mat');
```

or by specifying the full file path to the .mat file:

```
load('~\work\Colormaps\berlin.mat');
```

Then use it, for example, with:

```
figure(1)
colormap(berlin)
colorbar
```

## Using the .cpt Format (GMT)

The file `berlin.cpt` can be resampled for a given z-value range with the Generic Mapping Tools (GMT; <http://gmt.soest.hawaii.edu/>) command "makecpt".

For example to resample for an array from -2000 to 2000 in 100 increments you could generate a new file with:

```
$makecpt -Cberlin.cpt -T-2000/2000/100 > berlin_resampled.cpt
```

## Using the .ct Format (VisIt)

The file `berlin.ct` can be imported to VisIt by placing the `.ct` file in the `.visit` directory, which can be found on macOS under e.g.,:

```
/Applications/VisIt.app/Contents/Resources/ ...
... 2.12.3/darwin-x86_64/resources/colortables
```

The colour map should appear in the built-in list after VisIt has been restarted.

## Using the .mat Format (Mathematica)

```
ColorMapSuitePath = "/Path/To/ColourMapSuite/";

ColorMapSuite[name_String] := ColorMapSuite[name, -1]
ColorMapSuite[name_String, el_] := With[{
  list =
    Transpose@{Subdivide[0, 1, 255],
      RGBColor @@@
      First@Import[
        ColorMapSuitePath <> "/" <> name <> "/" <> name <> ".mat"]}]
  },
  Blend[list, {##}][[el]]] &
]
```

The function call `ColorMapSuite["name", i = -1]` returns a lambda function whose *i*th argument is used to define color (see the Manual for `ColorFunction` for details). `"name"` should be replaced with the name (in quotes) of the color scheme, e.g. `"berlin"`. Be sure to set the variable

`ColorMapSuitePath` to the path where your ColorMapSuite is installed.

General rules are:

- 1D plots of 1D functions/data: no (default) argument  $i$  suffices
- 2D plots of 2D functions/data: no (default) argument  $i$  suffices
- 3D plots of 2D functions/data: use  $i = 3$
- 3D plots of 3D functions/data: use  $i = 4$  (results might be worse than default Mathematica color functions, possibly due to lack of surface normal mapping)

```
ContourPlot[Sin[x] Sin[y], {x, 0, 2 Pi},  
{y, 0, 2 Pi}, ColorFunction -> ColorMapSuite["berlin"]]
```

## License

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