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Subject: Re: Aspect ratio for 'PS' output  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 30 Jul 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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Amit Ghosh ([amit@physics.utoronto.ca](mailto:amit@physics.utoronto.ca)) writes:

> I am unable to control the aspect ratio for contour plots directed to  
> postscript output (for std 'X' output the plot sizes to the window  
> size). I am in particular making geographic plots by first setting up my  
> coordinate system using `map\_set'. Is there a straightforward way to do  
> this ?

I have a couple of programs that might help in this respect.  
They help you control either the size of the plotting "window"  
or the location of the plot in the window. Both programs,  
named ASPECT and PSWINDOW, can be downloaded from my web  
page.

The ASPECT program returns a vector of normalized  
coordinates to be used with the POSITION keyword to  
locate a plot in the output graphics window. It works  
identically whether your graphics window is the display  
or a PostScript page. For example, if you want to have  
a map projection with a height to width ratio of 3/4,  
you would type this command:

```
Map_Set, /Cylindrical, Position=Aspect(0.75), /Grid  
Contour, data, /Overplot
```

If, on the other hand, you want your PostScript output  
to have the same aspect ratio as the plot does in your  
display window, you might use PSWINDOW. This program  
returns DEVICE keywords to set the PostScript window  
to have the same aspect ratio as the current graphics  
window. The calls would look something like this:

```
parameters = PSWindow()  
thisDevice = !D.Name  
Set_Plot, 'PS'  
Device, _Extra=parameters  
Map_Set, /Cylindrical, Grid, /Continents  
Contour, data, /Overplot  
Device, /Close  
Set_Plot, thisDevice
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting  
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com  
Phone: 970-221-0438  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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