
Subject: Printing color line-plots on non-PS printers...

Posted by [Richard G. French](#) on Fri, 09 Oct 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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I would like to print copies of line plots that use different colors for different lines, but on a non-PS printer. I have an HP Deskjet 870Cse (fairly nice inkjet color printer). I've tried using the PCL device type when running from Windows, and then doing

```
spawn,'copy plotfile.pcl LPT1:'
```

but this is EXTREMELY slow - several minutes for a very simple plot - and it blocks IDL from doing anything else until the plot is done.

As an alternative, I have saved color line plots in PS mode, and then used GhostView to view the file. So far so good, but when I then use the 'print to non-PS printer' option, it comes out in black and gray instead of in color.

I suspect I am not the only one who wants to do this - suggestions eagerly awaited!

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