
Subject: Re: plotting and large data files
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 29 Oct 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Note: A copy of this article was e-mailed to the original poster.

David Ritscher (david.ritscher@bigfoot.com) writes:

- > How does one handle plotting of data sets with many more points than
- > one can plot on the screen or print on a laser printer?

- > [Nice solution snipped.]

- > 1. Is there any way to do something similar with a laser printer?
- > Different laser printers have different mappings of pixels, sometimes
- > even different mappings in the two directions (for example, higher
- > resolution in the long axis of the paper). How would I perform the
- > above steps 1. and 2. with a laser printer?

At least for the PRINTER device in IDL you can (in IDL 5.1.1 and higher) get the pixel resolution of the default printer with the GET_PAGE_SIZE keyword to the DEVICE command:

```
Set_Plot, 'PRINTER'  
DEVICE, GET_PAGE_SIZE=thisPage  
Print, thisPage
```

Presumably with this information you can perform the same tedious tasks you are now performing for the display device.

I agree it would be nice to have this functionality built into IDL.

Cheers,

David

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