
Subject: Re: problems printing labels on graphs
Posted by [Stu](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> R.Bauer (R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:

>

>>

>>

>> Stu wrote:

>>

>>> hello,

>>>

>>>> I have written an IDL procedure for displaying some data I have, this
>>>> basically consists of displaying a grey-scale image (using TV), and then
>>>> plotting a line graph directly below this image using PLOT. This data can
>>>> be displayed on the screen or written to a PS or EPS file. The procedure
>>>> also has the ability to change the type of font used (e.g. vector fonts,
>>>> true type fonts, or hardware/device fonts {e.g. postscript}), and by using
>>>> TITLE, SUBTITLE, XTITLE, and YTITLE, titles can be added to the axes and
>>>> various parts of the plot.

>>>>

>>>> The procedure works correctly when displaying data to the screen, all the
>>>> labels are printed correctly and the correct fonts are displayed. When
>>>> writing to a file, the titles are only displayed when the procedure is
>>>> called for the first time. I have to quit IDL and restart it each time in
>>>> order for the titles to be printed on the plot. Note: this only seems to
>>>> apply to vector and true type fonts, it is not necessary to quit each time
>>>> when using postscript fonts - although the titles are printed each time,
>>>> they're not printed in the correct place.

>>>>

>>> Anyone any ideas?

>>> cheers,

>>> Stu

>>

>> Did you close the device by device ,/close

>

> Oh, good idea! :-)

>

> This is clearly a programming error, not an IDL error.

> I would bet some money on that!

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

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Yes of course I used DEVICE, /CLOSE and DEVICE,/CLOSE_FILE!

Actually the more I look at this problem, the more I think it is an IDL bug, either that or something REALLY obscure. I have actually managed to get the labels printed each time under some circumstances. What I have is something like:

```
old_dev=!D.NAME
:
:
program
:
:
IF old_dev NE !D.NAME THEN BEGIN
    DEVICE,/CLOSE
    SET_PLOT, old_dev
ENDIF
```

Normally !D.NAME would be 'X' when the procedure is first run, it would only be changed during the course of the procedure when printing to a file, if the device is changed it is closed and plotting is redirected to the old device before the procedure quits, as above. I discovered (by chance) if I do a SET_PLOT, 'PS' before running the procedure for the first time I can get labels printed on the plots each time I run the procedure. But the PS device isn't being closed until I rerun the procedure to generate the next plot. Oddly, if I now sent the output to a window, the labels aren't printed in the window!?

So are there any "hidden variables" in IDL that control if labels are printed to the X/PS devices?

Stu
