Subject: A line command for printing graphs. Posted by Andry William Ratsima on Thu, 29 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Dear IDL users.

I have written a pretty simple IDL procedure which had helped me in printing graphs on a PS file. The idea is that with this program I can easily define sizes. This procedure lets print almost any plot from a main program or a procedure without the need to change the program and include a "set\_plot, 'ps'" command.

I have put the program on my web server because I think it can be usefull for anybody, especially for beginners. ( http://www.ccbb.ulpgc.es/fisica/usuarios/andry/IDL/pr\_print. pro)

Also, I would appreciate if anybody can improve it and send me back any suggestion or any improvement he has.

For example one thing I would to have is creating a simple widget interface which can be used to run the procedure. I am not very good in widget so that why I would need somebody.

Thanks for your input and looking forward to hearing your comments

Regards,

NOTE: Please find below the "help" I wrote for the program.

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NAME: PR\_PRINT PURPOSE:

By running this procedure to call another specified procedure (the

real program to run), you will be able to choose after seen the plotting graphics whether you want to print it or not.

## CATEGORY:

program handling, output.

## CALLING SEQUENCE:

pr\_print

## **OPTIONAL INPUT PARAMETERS:**

prnt: The size scale. It is defined as:

x-size

prnt= -----

y-size

Sometimes, this parameter is computed within the main program (especially for a map plot).

If not set manually nor within the main program, a value of

PRNT=0.75

is used.

The value introduced at the execution of this PR\_PRINT program will override any computed value.

sz: A 2-element vector which specifies the X- and Y-size of the hardcopy graphic (!!!! in PS mode !!!)

; fichero: A short cut by specifying at execution time the name of

the file of the program to plot.

## **KEYWORD:**

in

landscape: If set and not equal to 0, generates a graphic

a landscape mode.

w\_device: The output device used to show the plot. If not specified, the plot will be first shown on the screen.

xxx\_comp: set this keyword to 1 if you know that it is not the 1st time you use this 'pr\_print' program during the session.

; no\_plot: Set this to 1 if you do not want to plot the graphs before

; printing it. This is useful when your program needs a lot of time

; to run, you are already sure of your result, and you want to plot

it right away.

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compile:
                 Set this to 1 if you do need to compile the
procedure.
         The compilation should be done whenever you change to a
new
         procedure (or have made a change to the procedure) and
you have
         already used "pr_print" during your session.
                 Set this to the name of the output filename. If
    out flnm:
not set the
         default is the name of the program to be run with the
specific
         color: Set this to 1 to save color postscript file.
                                                   ::COLOR
    xoffset: Set this to the offset distance in X (in Cm). If not
set the
         default is drawing the graph in the center of the paper.
    voffset: Set this to the offset distance in Y (in Cm). If not
set the
         default is drawing the graph in the center of the paper.
 RESTRICTIONS:
    Main programs (not carrying the leading line:
         pro fichero
    can be run. Another copy of the program is made converted into
    procedure. The later is run and deleted after execution.
    You should have some free memory on your drive for the temporary
    copy to be run.
    The program to run should have the following first executable
    line:
         pro fichero,prnt=prnt
    If not, the optional keyword ",prnt=prnt" is added to the
    "pro fichero"-line.
    Main programs which contain Procedure(s) and/or Fuction(s) at
the
    begining of the main file are not supported.
    << WARNING !!!>>
    << WARNING !!!>> IF YOU WANT TO SPECIFY THE SIZE OF YOUR GRAPH,
    << WARNING !!!>> DON'T FORGET TO DEFINE prnt IN YOUR MAIN
    << WARNING !!!>> PROGRAM.
    << WARNING !!!>>
 RESULT:
    The program will plot the graphic on the current device.
MODIFICATION:
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990520, allow user to specify xoffset/yoffset. 981008, corrected the change of background color. 980520, by WAR, Add "color" keyword. 980505, add "out\_flnm" keyword. Feb. 16th, 1998, rename "landscp" keyword => "landscape". Jan. 9th, 1998, add "compile" keyword for IDL V 5.0 Dec. 20th, 1997, Add "no\_plot" keyword. Oct. 30th, 1997, Correct bug about "PRO..." filename. Sept. 23rd, 1995, created by WAR. Oct. 15th, !version.os introduced Jan 1st, 1996, w\_device, landscp, prnt, and sz keywords introduced. Jan 7th, 1996, Main plotting prog (which does not carry a leading line "pro fichero") can be run. Feb 29th, 1996, add 'xxx\_comp' keyword so that one can re-compile the new-to-plot program. THIS PROGRAM WORKS PRETTY FINE BUT NEEDS ANYBODY'S INPUT FOR IMPROVEMENT AND FOR EXAMPLE, FOR MAKING A widget INTERFACE FOR END USERS. IT STILL NEEDS SOME IMPROVEMENT SUCH AS ACCPETING ALL THE **GRAPHIC** KEYWORD FOR device AND call\_procedure.