
Subject: Re: .pdf, .png
Posted by [David G. Grier](#) on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Liam Gumley wrote:

- > Does anyone else see a need for PDF graphics output in IDL? What would I
- > do with a single page of PDF graphics? Can I insert it into a document
- > (as I would with Postscript)?

PDF graphics are useful for people creating PDF documents with pdftex or pdflatex. Most existing pdftex implementations can import PDF graphics, but not PostScript (one exception being VTEX, a commercial variant). Open source pdftex implementations also can import PNG, JPEG, and some other bitmap formats, but lose the benefit of vector graphics.

I've been quite satisfied converting IDL PostScript graphics to PDF with ghostscript's ps2pdf. This should be a fairly general solution since ghostscript runs on a wide variety of platforms. And it's free. Consequently, I don't

see a real need for IDL to tack on PDF support.

--

=====
David G. Grier (773) 702-9176 (voice)
Dept. of Physics and James Franck Institute (773) 702-5863 (FAX)
The University of Chicago grier@fafnir.uchicago.edu
5640 S. Ellis Ave
Chicago, IL 60637 http://rainbow.uchicago.edu/~grier/
=====