
Subject: using make to create plots?

Posted by [Stuart Colley](#) on Fri, 01 Jun 2001 11:07:53 GMT

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hi,

I'm using make to create a LaTeX document that contains .eps files created by IDL. What I'd like to do is have a suffix rule that checks to see if the .sav file (which contains the plot I created with IDL) is newer than the .eps that will be included in the document. If the .sav file is newer than the .eps file then I'd like to create a new .eps from the .sav file using a routine I wrote:

```
sav2ps, 'filename.sav', /eps
```

The question is, can IDL be used to execute just one command, such as the one above is a suffix rule, e.g the one below:

```
.SUFFIXES : .eps .sav  
.sav.eps :  
idl sav2ps, 'filename.sav', /eps
```

Or would I have to create a .pro file with the relevant commands? And could the make's \$< macro be used to pass the filename - I have a feeling it couldn't.

cheers,
S
