
Subject: Re: WINDOW, /PIXMAP Question
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Wed, 23 Oct 2002 13:59:00 GMT
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> I have a similar situation, I need to process images and make
> animations no matter who's logged in. I've written all my code so
> that it doesn't need to connect to the X server. My entire project
> is defeated, however, by a piece of SGI software, dmconvert, which I
> use to transform a series of images into a quicktime movie. That
> code makes a connection to the X server and I can't do without that
> software. So I leave myself logged in so that my account can always
> connect to the X server.

Not surprisingly, if you have access to a Mac, there is a variety of software that will convert images into QT movies. One of the best is the professional-quality shareware program GraphicConverter. Write the images from IDL in your favorite format (GIF/JPEG/PNG/raw). I use raw or PNG. Convert the images to QT movies using the "graphics" or "animation" codecs. Those QT codecs can be set to do lossless compression; they are fast and simple; and they compress most scientific graphics well (i.e., line art, not photographs).

Of course, you need a raster device (e.g., X or Z) to create the original images in IDL.

Regards, Ken Bowman
