
Subject: PNGs without X?

Posted by [Dr. Sven Geier](#) on Tue, 21 Jan 2003 19:57:19 GMT

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Heya all

I have a routine that gathers data from various places, then plots it, then uses tvrd(/true) to read the plot into an array and then writes it out as a .png graphics file. This all works fine so far.

Since I rarely ever look at the graphs as they're plotted (the pngs go to a web-directory) I switched the plotting to a pixmap, i.e. the idl-process now opens its own window with the /pixmap parameter (and also xsize and ysize and such) and thus the whole shebang works quite nicely without ever showing anything on the screen.

Now in the process of automation I'd like to move the whole operation to a server box that does not have X running. Unfortunately it turns out that these "pixmap" are *X*-pixmap and that I can't open them without X.

So now I'm looking for some way to plot data into/onto a PNG (or GIF or JPG or whatever) without having an actual graphic server running. I played around with plotting into a PS device and using ghostscript to convert that into a JPG, but not only do the colors not come out right (the usual PS stuff) but also the fonts are all off (the !P.font=0 for the 'x' device is designed to be readable on a 400x400 window, the ps-fonts become illegible when I reduce a PS-plot to that resolution) and similar problems.

Anybody know how to do a standard run-of-the mill X-type plot into a file or into an array or into RAM or such?

Thanks in advance...

-- SG

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Catch a couple Z's before responding...
