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Subject: Publication-quality plots

Posted by [Kristian Kjær](#) on Wed, 02 Jun 2004 11:15:07 GMT

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How do people get nice pictures in MS-word files?

To produce text with publication-quality plots in it, the best, surely, is to write postscript files from IDL and insert them in LATEX.

However, various constraints mean that often I have to write the text in MS-word.

Then it works to insert eps-files and print on a postscript printer, but on the screen you see at best a preview of the graphic.

I've usually done as follows:

Write ps-file, read ps-file into CorelDraw, copy drawing to windows clipboard, in MS-word paste-special. Then I get four options.

I choose 'picture'. ('CorelDrawObject' may work too, but 'Picture (enh. metafile)' is bad, and 'Dev indep. Bitmap' er horrible.)

The result seems to be a vector graphic (scaleable in MS-word) that is almost as good as the original ps-file.

With !P.font =1 (for truetype) I note the ps-file does not contain real truetype letters. It has the letters rendered (not too well, in fact) as vector strokes.

Also, the whole procedure is too slow.

Now instead I tried writing a windows metafile.

However with !P.font =1 (for truetype) the letters are much worse than in postscript, with !P.font =1 (for ps-fonts) the letters don't rotate, and even good on !P.font =-1 (for Hershey) doesn't work well.

Thanks for any insight.

- Kristian

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