
Subject: Re: IDL graphics w/ no display
Posted by [btt](#) on Wed, 27 Oct 2004 12:48:47 GMT
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Ken Mankoff wrote:

```
>  
>>> I think I cannot use object graphics because I am working with map  
>>> projections, map_continents, etc. and these don't work with object  
>>> graphics, right?  
>>  
>>
```

Hi,

(1) About OG without a display device.

I think you can use the IDLgrBuffer as the destination drawing device. The following works without X11 (MacOSX).

```
x = findgen(361)*!dtr  
y = sin(x)  
oplot = obj_new('IDLgrPlot', x,y)  
omodel = obj_new('idlgrModel')  
omodel->Add, oplot  
oview = obj_new('idlgrview', viewplane_rect = [0,-1,!pi*2,2])  
oview->Add, omodel  
obuffer = obj_new('idlgrbuffer')  
obuffer->draw, oview  
oimage = obuffer->Read()  
oimage->GetProperty, data = img  
write_png, 'bufferimage.png', img
```

(2) I think that the iMap might be disguising how easy it can be to transform map polygons into the OG realm. I recall a thread on this newsgroup where somebody tessalated the Polygons for Alaska and then threw them into an object graphics destination. (I think it was Karl - but I haven't found that thread.)

With the advent of the MAP_PROJ_***** routines, it sure seems like RSI has freed mapping from the DG world. So, somewhere in iMap, the CIA map data (or the Shape file data) that comes with IDL is unpacked and then formed into OG polygons. That said, I have no experience with OG mapping although I started down that path once in an idle moment.

Cheers,
Ben
