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Subject: Blurred display of images in PDFs created from EPS on Mac OS X  
Posted by [jm](#) on Thu, 03 Feb 2005 17:03:44 GMT

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I often make false colour maps of data in IDL and export as EPS graphics which I used to import into FrameMaker documents. I have recently migrated from Solaris to Mac OS X and plan to use Pages and Keynote (I know, Pages is not a FrameMaker replacement, but that another story.) Anyway, there is an irritating quirk in the way Mac OS X displays the PDFs created from EPS files - the image embedded in the graphic (say, a 20 by 20 array) is displayed upsampled and horribly blurred. This is the case in Preview and Keynote, but not Acrobat 7 which shows it nice and crisp. Keynote shows the PDF image blurred in editing and as a slide-show, but it does export a sharp PDF. Whilst this is workable, it does mean not using the native Keynote slide-show mode.

This is evidently a Mac OS X quirk, rather than anything to do with IDL. However, despite some searching, I can't find any mention of it any of the Apple lists etc. Furthermore, it may be something that only occurs with arrays (i.e. images) embedded in EPS files - something IDL users are likely to produce, which is why I've posted here.

Any ideas?

-John Mardaljevic

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