Subject: Re: How to make GIF file (2) ?
Posted by rivers on Mon, 12 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <3ri3c2$dm6@hecate.umd.edu>, bleau@UMDSP.UMD.EDU (Lawrence Bleau) writes:
> Hi again. I posted a message last week re generating a GIF file from IDL so I
> can serve it over WWW, and received quite a few responses so far. All of them
> have directed me to use TVRD and WRITE_GIF. Thanks to those who responded.
> This does not, however, solve my problem entirely. Here are the additional
> details.
> ...
> The second problem is one of automation. As I mentioned earlier I want these
> graphs to be served out over WWW. What I didn't mention in my earlier post was
> the method I had in mind. I'd like these graphs to be generated when a WWW
> request comes in for data in a certain time frame. My HTTP server would fire
> up an application which would figure out what raw data files are needed, then
> start up IDL and feed it the data. IDL would generate a GIF file, which the
> application would then feed back to the HTTP server and thence to the WWW
> client. So, IDL would be running in a detached mode, with *no* display device.
>
> Question: Can TVRD get information from the display device if there is no
> display device?
>
> Also: Can PLOT be made to generate a plot (which TVRD can access) if there is
> no display device? I know PLOT can be told to generate a PostScript file (do a
> SET_PLOT,'PS'), but this doesn't help, as Netscape doesn't know how to display
> PostScript. Ideally, I'd like to do the equivalent of SET_PLOT,'GIF', but that
> doesn't appear to be an option. If the PLOT-TVRD combination doesn't work in
> this mode, what can I use on PLOT to eventually get a GIF file? Thanks.

You should have read our responses more carefully. At least 3 of us suggested
that you use the Z pseudo-device (SET_PLOT, 'Z'). This solves these problems.
You can PLOT to and do TVRD() from the Z device from a batch file.

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