Subject: Re: Using idl from a daemon process to produce a gif
Posted by rivers on Tue, 06 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <3r0mg8$k5s@CUBoulder.Colorado.EDU>, woodjr@benji.Colorado.EDU (WOOD JAMEY RYAN) writes:
> I'd like to put together a system for a www page that'll gather data from
> a socket and automatically graph the data in a gif file. I've written a
> daemon in C that collects the data and writes it to a data file.
>
> My problem is producing the gif file. I can get IDL to do it by first
> PLOT'ing the data, then using TVRD() to grab the result, and finally WRITE_GIF
> to make the gif. But this isn't very satisfactory since it depends on the
> system display and won't work at all once I've logged out from the session
> in which I started my daemon.
>
> So is there any way to accomplish this without depending on the system display
> like this? Or can anyone suggest a tool that is better suited for this than
> IDL?

Use the "Z" device, which is a memory-resident pseudo-device, rather than the
X device. Then you are not dependent on the system dusplay.

```
IDL> set_plot, 'z'
IDL> device, /noz   ; Turn off Z buffering if you don't need it. Can also set
               ; resolution here, but I forget the syntax!
IDL> plot, ...
IDL> t = tvrd()
...
```

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