Subject: Re: naming PS plots: variable+ string?

Posted by peter.albert@gmx.de on Fri, 17 Feb 2006 08:44:25 GMT

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Hi again,

the reason for the error message is than in both examples you are trying to add an integer variable (figname) to a string variable ('.ps'). IDL starts with interpreting

"figname + ..." so it expects that the variable after the "+" sign is any kind of number, too. It is difficult to guess which number is represented by the string ".ps", therefore IDL is giving up ...

You want to use the "+" sign for concatenating strings, so you must ensure that "figname" is a string _before_ "adding" it to ".ps".

You would start with

psfilename = string(figname) + ".ps"

and be surprised about the many blanks in the filename. Hence, something like

psfilename = string(figname, format = '(i4.4)') + ".ps"

already looks much better. Or, alternatively

psfilename = strcompress(string(figname), /remove_all) + ".ps"

The first example leaves you with 4 characters before the ".ps", no matter which value figname has:

0001.ps
0002.ps
...
2004.ps
...

but fails when figname exceeds 9999. The second example works with all integer values but creates filenames like

1.ps
2.ps
10.ps
...

Cheers,

Peter