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Subject: mpeg creation problem

Posted by [kostis](#) on Wed, 28 Feb 2007 14:26:43 GMT

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I have a 3d plot which i want to save as an mpeg video of 2000 frames  
(a lot)

$x[i]$  ,  $y[i]$  ,  $z[i]$  are arrays (dimension=2000) of numbers  
properly defined

I use the following code:

```
; number of frames
nfr=2000

; spatial size in pixels
xsize=300
ysize=300

; open the mpeg
mpegID=MPEG_OPEN([xsize,ysize])

; loop over the frames
for f=0,nfr-2 do begin

    ; create a 3d environment
    .....

    ; plot the line of a frame using the arrays in the
environment
    for i=0,f
        plots, [ x[i] , x[i+1] ], [ y[i] , y[i+1] ], [ z[i] , z[i
+1] ], /T3D, /DATA
    endfor

    ; put a frame into the mpeg
    MPEG_PUT,mpegID,WINDOW=0,FRAME=f

endfor

; save and close
MPEG_SAVE,mpegID,FILENAME='vid.mpg'
MPEG_CLOSE,mpegID
```

Comments:

I run IDL in a remote pc (through linux ssh).

Each frame is first plotted to my screen and then inserted to the  
mpg.

It takes almost 10minutes for each frame so i should wait a very long

time for my 2000 frame..!!  
I think that the screen plotting delays the whole process.  
There must be a better way since they say IDL is the top graphics  
tool...

Questions:

1. Can I do the same job without each frame appearing on my screen??  
How should I change the code??
2. Do U have any other suggestions to improve this ??

Thanx for ur patience

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