
Subject: Re: EPS printouts from IDL 4.0.1
Posted by [Kenneth S. Kump](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Here is my two cents:

I find the easiest way to position text and create postscript or encapsulated postscript is to use the built-in `annotate` procedure. It works on the current window.

You can include text (rotate, scale, choose fonts), make lines, polygons, etc. Once you are satisfied with the plot, you do File>ExportBitmap (don't be fooled by the File>Save box--that's for saving the actual annotations). There is

a postscript option(as well as Gif and Tif). It prompts with a filename and you are done! If you want encapsulated PS, choose Options box and click on Encapsulated...It even allows you to specify landscape/portrait and the output width. It is a little difficult getting used-to the `annotate` environment but it is an "easy" solution for most users. I have successfully included this output into my LATEX documents.

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Dale Bailey <dale> wrote:

> I am a bit new to this so I hope this is not an old question that everyone
> knows already. I am using IDL 4.0.1 on a Sparc 20 (Solaris 5.3), and am trying
> to produce a plot in PostScript for printing. I want to annotate the graph
> (as in the Ref Manual V4 N-Z, Chap 3, pp3-46 ff.). I have found the following:
> * If I do not use the keyword `/ENCAPSULATED`, I get a PostScript file, which
> I cannot annotate readily (multiple `XYOUTS` calls overwrite), but it does print;
> * If I use `/ENCAPSULATED`, I can annotate at will (with `XYOUTS`), I can view it
> with the display tool (ImageTool) in Solaris on the screen, but it won't print
> to any of our printers (tried a Xerox 4520MP and a HP);
> * I could not see how to position the plot with `/ENCAPSULATED`, as you can't
> use `XOFFSET` and `YOFFSET` with `/ENCAPSULATED`, and the reference manual's
> advice to change the size is not really for positioning it seems;
> * Once I use the command `DEVICE` with `/ENCAPSULATED` this appears to stay in
> effect for the rest of the IDL session, even if I remove `/ENCAPSULATED` from
> the command and re-compile the procedure.
>

> Any suggestions? When I try to print an encapsulated PostScript file produced
> by IDL I do get an initial response from the printer, and then nothing - no
> error msgs, nothing at all. This all seems rather messy, and inconsistent.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Dale Bailey
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