
Subject: Re: writing to 2 "windows" in idl?

Posted by [jlaw](#) on Thu, 18 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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In article 96Jan17130850@revelle.cdc.noaa.gov, cas@revelle.cdc.noaa.gov (Cathy Smith) writes:

>

> Hi- I'd like to write out character strings to a gif imagee and determine

> their lengths (in pixels).

> <snip>

> This works except that I cover up some

> lines on my original plot that I don't want covered. Is there a way to

> write to a "fake" device instead?

>

Does this help?

```
IDL> plot,cos(indgen(100)/7)
```

```
IDL> device,get_write_Mask=smask
```

```
IDL> print,smask
```

```
255
```

```
IDL> device,set_write_mask=0 ; DO NOT WRITE TO ANY GRAPHICS PLANES
```

```
IDL> xyouts,50,0,'My string of text',wid=wid
```

```
IDL> print,wid
```

```
0.131250
```

```
IDL> device,set_write_mask=smask ; WRITE TO ALL GRAPHICS PLANES AGAIN..
```

```
IDL> xyouts,50,0,'My string of text',wid=wid
```

You could probably also do this with

device,set_graphics_function=something. Table 3.4 in my online help...

best of luck

f.
