liamgumley@gmail.com wrote:
> On Jan 28, 10:50 am, chloesharro...@gmail.com wrote:
>> Hi Liam
>>
>> Thanks very much for that - so much more novice-friendly and I already
>> had the zip file downloaded and extracted in my IDL path so I could
>> use them instantly. I've now used pson and psoff to run one of my
>> graphs and it worked fine, so that's great! This is probably a silly
>> question, but if I wanted to use the usual method for sending stuff to
>> postscript (ie not pson/posff), can I just call "loadcolors" but not
>> specify 'device, decomposed=0'? The reason I ask is I have several
>> plots within different codes all set up like this and it would be
>> easier to delete that one line, than change the code. If not, that's
>> fine - I'll stick with this as it works!
>>
>> One thing I've noticed however, is that with pson I can't change the
>> font size (using font_size) and I presume there are some other
>> limitations to using pson too.
>>
>> Thanks ever so much for your help Liam - that really is much simpler
>> for someone like me to use! I only have a couple of weeks to grasp
>> enough IDL to analyse my data for my research project and sadly don't
>> have the time to get to grips with more sophisticated stuff! Your book
>> has already been invaluable!
>
> Chloï¿½,
>
> PSON and PSOFF are meant to be drop in replacements for the SET_PLOT
> commands used to select and deselect the PostScript device. They
> include additional intelligence which makes configuring the PostScript
> device much easier than using DEVICE commands. If I was you, I'd
> modify your code to use it.

To the OP,

FWIW, I use pson and psoff exclusively and they have made my life very simple. My plots now always have the same aspect ratio (might not sound like a big deal, but I like reproducibility :o)

Regarding font sizing, I have never used font_size. I always use the charsize keyword to the relevant graphics command. And for the x/ps switch, I typically have something like the following in most of my plotting codes:

charsize = (!D.NAME eq 'PS') ? 1.25 : 1.5 ; Adjust as appropriate

```
font    = (!D.NAME eq 'PS') ? 1 : -1
thick   = (!D.NAME eq 'PS') ? 2 :  1
....
plot, x, y, $
     ...other keywords...., $
     charsize=charsize,font=font,thick=thick
```

Then, all I do is

```
pson
myplot_procedure
psoff
```

and the plots look quite marvyplate whether I'm displaying them onscreen or squirting them to a ps file.

cheers,

paulv