
Subject: Re: Using Postscript & Colours in IDL
Posted by [liamgumley](#) on Mon, 28 Jan 2008 20:18:12 GMT
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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!

Chloé,

PSOON 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.

PSOON does not impose limitations on the DEVICE commands you can use after PostScript output has been selected. For example, if you want to select a Times Roman font

```
pson
device, set_font='Times Bold', /tt_font ; select a TrueType font
plot, x, y, title='My Test Plot', font=1 ; tell PLOT to use the
TrueType font
psoff
```

See pages 372 and 373 of my book for more information.

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
<http://www.gumley.com/>
