
Subject: Re: plotting graphics for web pages
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 20 May 2008 18:29:33 GMT
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Paul van Delst writes:

> I assume you're pulling my whizzer here since I know I don't do anything that isn't
> already known. Maybe it's just a convention thing on my part?

Despite the fact that Paul thinks everyone knows how to produce IDL output for display on the Web and in Powerpoint slides, *I* didn't know it. So, as is my practice, I wrote it down so I won't forget it.

Actually, I was slightly more ambitious than that, since I also wrote a couple of new programs for the Coyote Library while I was about it to make this even easier to accomplish. (I need lots of graphics for my web page, so I figured an up-front investment now would save me lots of time later.)

In particular, I wrote my own version of Liam's wonderful programs PSON and PSOFF, called PS_START and PS_END because I am inordinately fond of PSConfig and hate to give that up. (One of the nicest programs I ever wrote, if you don't look at the code. And, incidentally, I found a bug in that code--after all these years!!--so if you want to use the new routines, you will also need a new version of fsc_psconfig__define.pro. I'd get the whole damn library, since there have been a ton of changes in the past week or so.)

One feature of PS_END that you won't find in PSOFF is the ability to immediately convert IDL PostScript output to JPEG, PNG, or TIFF output, simply by setting the appropriate keyword. (Although I expect to see this functionality in PSOFF by the end of the day. :-)

In any case, if you want to have a look at the article, you can find it here:

http://www.dfanning.com/graphics_tips/weboutput.html

It has rather dramatic pictures, I think, of what normal PNG file output looks like, and the same output converted with ImageMagick. Clearly, there is no possible way I am ever returning to TVREAD. :-(

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
