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Subject: Re: The usage of PS\_END

Posted by [jeffnettles4870](#) on Mon, 06 Oct 2008 23:02:03 GMT

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On Oct 6, 6:56 pm, "Jeff N." <[jeffnettles4...@gmail.com](#)> wrote:

> On Oct 6, 5:22 pm, David Fanning <[n...@dfanning.com](#)> wrote:

>

>

>

>> [dux...@gmail.com](#) writes:

>>> I have found the reason that made PS\_END not to covert PS file to

>>> another type file.

>>> Because my file path contains a space like 'C:\My Documents'.

>

>>> The string 'cmd' in PS\_END is 'convert -density 300 D:\My Documents

>>> \lineplot.ps -resize 25% D:\My Documents\lineplot.png'

>>> When the command 'SPAWN, cmd' is executed, the windows system cannot

>>> identify 'My Documents' as a whole directory name.

>>> So the double quotation marks shouble be added for the filename with

>>> filepath.

>>> The cmd become 'convert -density 300 "D:\My Documents\lineplot.ps" -

>>> resize 25% "D:\My Documents\lineplot.png"'.  
>

>>> Therefore, I change the line 187 in PS\_START/PS\_END into

>>> cmd =3D 'convert -density 300 ' + ''' + ps\_struct.filename + ''' + ' -

>>> resize 25% ' + ''' + outfile + '''

>>> And now the command 'PS\_END, /png' can create 'lineplot.png'

>>> successfully.  
>

>>> But I want to konw how to call PS\_START with the whole path filename,

>>> for example:

>>> ps\_start,filename=3D'D:\plot.ps'

>

>> Humm. This is a good point. Spaces in file names gave

>> me so damn much grief when the Windows and first Mac

>> versions of IDL came out, that I have never--from that

>> day to this--EVER named a directory with a space in it

>> on any computer I ever owned. (The definition of an

>> indelible experience, I guess.)  
>

>> ITTVIS has produced a function (IDL\_VALIDNAME) to let

>> you know if a string is a valid variable name. Perhaps

>> someone can write a function that can fix filenames with

>> spaces inside them. (I have to leave it as an exercise

>> for the reader, as I am late for a meeting.)  
>

>> Cheers,  
>

```
>> David
>
>> --
>> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
>> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
>
> This gave me an issue with ps_start/ps_end also. You have to surround
> the path with quotes, but this turned out to not be as easy as I
> thought so what I did was use the ascii character for a quote:
>
> path = c:\documents and settings\blah\blah\blah'
> quote = string(34b)
> path = quote + path + quote
>
> That worked for me.
>
> Jeff
```

oops first line should be:

```
path = 'c:\documents and settings\blah\blah\blah'
```

Now that I think about it, i may even have had to quote the individual directories, not the entire path string (so the path to pass to convert.exe would be

```
c:\"documents and settings\"blah\blah\blah
```

and not

```
"c:\documents and settings\blah\blah\blah"
```

which of course means you have to split your string using '\' (or path\_sep()) as a delimiter, search all the extracted strings for spaces and then put quotes around any that need them. Sigh. I hope i didn't have to do all that, that doesn't sound fun :(

Jeff

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