
Subject: Re: Write graphics to two devices simultaneously?
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Sun, 12 Apr 2009 15:51:02 GMT
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On Apr 11, 11:08 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> stefan5...@hotmail.com writes:

>> Is there any way to print to an X11 window and simultaneously dump the
>> X11 output to a postscript file?

>

>> Of course, I could just copy paste the plot information for a new
>> device, but it would make the procedure annoyingly long. Is there a
>> command to take the contents of an X11 device and save it to the
>> postscript device, or a command to write to postscript at the same
>> time as X11?

>

> It is not possible to write to two graphics devices at
> the same time. But, well-written IDL graphics programs
> don't much care what device they are being written to,
> which allows you to use something like PS_START/PS_END
> to write them to PostScript files simply:

>

> Consider displaying a histogram of an image, using HISTOPLLOT:

>

> ; An image.

> image = LoadData(7)

>

> ; Write to display.

> Histoplot, image, /FILL, POLYCOLOR='rose'

>

> ; Write to PostScript file.

> PS_START

> Histoplot, image, /FILL, POLYCOLOR='rose'

> PS_END

>

> Such commands work on Windows, LINUX, and Macintosh computers,
> and for Z-buffer and PRINTER devices, etc.

>

> Programs to help with this are found in the Coyote Library:

>

> <http://www.dfanning.com/programs/coyoteprograms.zip>

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

> 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.")

For cases like that, I tend to stick the entire thing into a for loop:

```
for ploti=0,1 do begin
  if ploti eq 1 then ps_start
  ... insert plotting commands here
  if ploti eq 1 then ps_end
endfor
```

That way you can ensure that your plot commands are absolutely identical.

-Jeremy.
