
Subject: Re: best image plotting routine

Posted by [liamgumley](#) on Fri, 08 May 2009 09:37:56 GMT

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On May 8, 1:39 pm, "R.G. Stockwell" <noemai...@please.com> wrote:

- > I often use a simple contour command (with /fill) to plot an image,
 - > however that is not practical for very large images with NANs in it.
 - > One must use /cell, and that takes forever to render, and creates
 - > 120mb postscript files.
 - >
 - > what is the best routine to use to create this plot of an image?
 - > Note there are 2 requirements.
 - >
 - > 1) it must accept "all" graphics keywords.
 - > - i use xtickformat to print julian days for instance, ytickv, ytickname,
 - > log axis, etc
 - >
 - > 2) it must create scalable and small postscript files
 - > - a bitmap into a postscript is not acceptable. the quality
 - > is too low for publication.
- [stuff deleted]

Download the PIP sample programs from

http://gumley.com/PIP/Sample_Programs/PIP_programs.zip

and try the following. First, create the plot onscreen:

```
data = dist(32)
imdisp, data, /axis, title='IMDISP TEST', $
  xtitle='X AXIS', xtickformat='(f6.1)', $
  /ylog, yrange=[0.1, 1000.0]
```

then switch to Postscript and redo the image

```
pson
device, /helvetica
imdisp, data, /axis, title='IMDISP TEST', $
  xtitle='X AXIS', xtickformat='(f6.1)', $
  /ylog, yrange=[0.1, 1000.0], font=0
psoff
```

Note the font=0 keyword to use the device font. If you are using a Mac as previously discussed here, you might want to do something like this first:

```
data = rebin(data, 1024, 1024, /sample)
```

Does the resulting PostScript file meet your needs?

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