
Subject: Re: IDL8.0 plot() function : how to plot to PS file like with DG "Set_Plot"?
Posted by [R.G.Stockwell](#) on Thu, 16 Sep 2010 22:03:47 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Chris Torrence" <gorthmog@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:95f9a953-d985-403f-b329-73e091eba963@r10g2000vbc.google groups.com...

>> p.s. BTW, what's with the shorthand formatting e.g. "-r2+"? Is ITTVIS
>> trying to make IDL look like matlab?!? :o)

>
> Python! :o

>
>
>> But, overall, for programmatic output into ps files, direct graphics
>> still wins IMO.

>
>
> Just out of curiosity, would it be possible to use PDF files instead
> of PS (assuming that we add multi-page PDF support of course)?

>
> For the PDF support, we made sure that it is both lossless and outputs
> to vector format by default. So it should contain the same info as a
> PS file. You should also be able to import it into many graphics
> packages, if you need to do any additional tweaks. Finally, most
> standard Unix printer drivers (e.g. CUPS) can handle PDF files just
> fine.

>
> Our assumption with the new graphics output was that people would use
> EPS files for importing into other programs - LaTeX documents, MS
> Word, Powerpoint, etc. And they would use PDF output for stand-alone
> files, where you want just the graphics on a piece of paper.

>
> If there is a specific need for regular PS files, we would love to
> hear about it, so we can consider adding support for this.

>
> Thanks!

>
> -Chris
> ITTVIS
> p.s. NG = OG(DG)

Hi Chris,
my two cents on this. Many researchers use LaTeX, which has an option for
including ps (eps) files, XOR including pdf and image files. You can't mix
them.

And as I am sure you know, the research community changes its computer
practices
very slowly (usually you have to wait for everyone to die, then have a new
generation

come in using new tools. :)

So, that is one reason for many IDL users to stick to ps files. Even though
it almost
always ends up getting pdfed.

cheers,
bob
