
Subject: Re: IDL8.0 plot() function : how to plot to PS file like with DG "Set_Plot"?
Posted by [chris_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Thu, 16 Sep 2010 16:59:14 GMT
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> 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)
