
Subject: Re: write plots alternately to two postscripts files
Posted by [Norbert Hahn](#) on Tue, 19 Oct 2010 16:23:58 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Kenneth P. Bowman" <k-bowman@null.edu> wrote:

```
> In article <coednS_IB9t6JCDRnZ2dnUVZ_tWdnZ2d@giganews.com>,
> Simon <user@compgroups.net/> wrote:
>
>> The problem sounds easy, but I do not know where to find the solution.
>> I want to write a program which should create two different postscript files, each having 100+
>> pages.
>> However I don't want to open, create and close them one after another.
>> It should work like this:
>>
>> Read and process a chunk of data.
>> Add a plot to file 1
>> Add a plot to file 2
>> Read and process new chunk of data
>> add a plot to file 1
>> Add a plot to file 2
>> and so on
>>
>> As the processed data is really large it is not possible to keep it all in memory. So first finish
>> file1 and then create file2 is not an option.
>>
>> Is there any chance to switsch between to output files?
>> Any help is appreciated!
>> Simon
>
> Because of the way direct graphics talks to devices, I don't believe
> that this is possible. If I'm wrong, I expect someone will correct me!
```

I think you are right.

```
> I suggest that you create individual pages as separate files, convert them to PDF,
> then use an external utility to merge the files into a single PDF.
```

Fortunately there is no need to convert PS pages to PDF as you can concatenate them to many jobs in a single file. Usually a PS job starts with %! and ends with ^D (CTRL-D). However, if a printer flushes the input after it encounters ^D, this end-of-job characters have to be deleted in the concatenated file.

Norbert
