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Subject: Re: IDL 8, EPS vs. PS graphics

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](mailto:chris_torrence@NOSPAM) on Fri, 07 Jan 2011 17:00:16 GMT

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On Jan 7, 9:16 am, Marc Buie <ec...@olblue.net> wrote:

> Folks -

>

> I just got around to trying to use the new plot functions on the creation of publication quality graphics. I've long thought this would help me in many ways. One of my needs is to save the careful crafted graphic in a variety of formats. I have always saved such graphics in both encapsulated (EPS) and regular postscript (PS). I need both flavors at different times in the publication process. I just ran this in the obvious way and find that '.ps' and '.eps' files are absolutely identical and it is my understand that this cannot be correct. One telling sign is that there is a "showpage" at the end of both. I thought encapsulated files were not allowed to have a showpage.

>

> Am I missing some subtle control on the save method for PLOT? Am I missing something else entirely? Or, is this yet another problem with IDL 8?

>

> Cheers,

> Marc

Hi Marc,

Not sure what other problems with IDL 8 you are referring to, but this is more of a limitation of IDL object graphics. It has never had the ability to output to PS files, but has only done EPS files. Usually, this is okay because you can simply import the EPS into whatever program you are using (MSWord, LaTeX, etc.) or just send it to a printer. Unfortunately, it sounds like in your case you really need the PS files. For now, I'm wondering if you could either use PDF for the "full-page" files, or use something like "eps2ps" to convert the files.

In the meantime, we can definitely consider adding support for PS files to object graphics. Thanks for the feedback!

Cheers,  
Chris  
ITTVIS

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