
Subject: Re: using plot() function in a batch file
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 11 Jan 2011 20:03:11 GMT
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Michael Galloy writes:

```
> Use the /BUFFER keyword to send the output to a buffer. It can then be  
> saved with the save method:  
>  
> p = plot(x, y, /buffer)  
> p->save, 'test.png'
```

Wow! This just gave me an idea for my Coyote Graphics routines. I realized I could add an OUTPUT keyword to my routines, which in about 10 lines of code will give me the ability to create PostScript, PNG, JPEG, TIFF, etc. output files from my routines without drawing anything on the display.

I just tried it with FSC_Plot and got a terrific PNG file, with beautiful PostScript fonts (not ugly Hershey fonts) by typing this command. OUTPUT=2 selects PNG files.

```
IDL> fsc_plot, loaddata(1), color='red', axiscolor='blue', output=2
```

Man, you have GOT to like that! :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. I have **really** got to do something else this afternoon, but check back tomorrow. This is outstanding! Goodness! Maybe I will sell a couple of copies of this new book. ;-)

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David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
