
Subject: ImageMagick and Landscape Encapsulated PostScript Files

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 25 Aug 2011 21:57:28 GMT

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Folks,

From time to time I have noticed a problem with clipped output when creating PNG files with ImageMagick from encapsulated PostScript intermediate files. The last time we ran into this problem, I believe, was in conjunction with cgWindow output.

I've had reason to look into this in a bit more depth today and I believe I finally understand what is causing the problem. It turns out that PSConfig and PS_Start are both forcing encapsulated PostScript files to be drawn in Portrait mode. If the "window" size is too large for Portrait mode, the plot gets clipped. This happens both in the PostScript and in the PNG file.

All well and good, but in the code there was NO indication about WHY I was doing this forcing.

Now I believe I know the answer to that question, too. It appears to be because ImageMagick cannot deal with encapsulated PostScript files in landscape mode. When I make, say, a PNG file from some PostScript file, the output is **always** clipped, even if the PostScript file seems to be correct. I have no problems at all dealing with an encapsulated PostScript file in portrait mode.

Now I can't tell if there is something about the IDL encapsulated PostScript file that is causing the problem, or if this is a limitation of ImageMagick. Does anyone have any experience with this?

I thought at first that it might have something to do with IDL's strange notion of what a "landscape" file is. (Everyone else in the known Universe calls this a "seascape" file.) But, I have the same ImageMagick problem whether I fix the IDL landscape file or not.

A Google search hasn't turned up much.

Any ideas about this? Thanks.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
