Subject: checking if PS output file already open
Posted by scvt on Wed, 13 Aug 2014 20:03:36 GMT

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I'm often looking at graphics output on the screen and use the prompt for a switch to call a chunk of code to send/regenerate the current image to a PS file before advancing to the next dataset.

I know, it's simple to just rename the 'idl.ps' file at the end of the session. But it would be nice if I could issue a DEVICE,FILENAME= statement along with the first SET_PLOT that switches to PS. But this overwrites the previously saved pages each time it's called. It's necessary to set up my own flag to test to avoid repeating the DEVICE statement.

Is there a simpler way to do this?
Something like DEVICE,FILENAME=,/NO_REOPEN would do the trick.

HELP,/DEVICE will show the name of the ps output file if it has been set. Is there a way to querry this information within a procedure? I tried looking for in !D and a few other system variables but couldn't find it.

It's such a minor little thing, but it's irritated me for years!

Thanks for any suggestions.

Richard