
Subject: Re: .pdf, .png
Posted by [David G. Grier](#) on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Liam Gumley wrote:

- > Does anyone else see a need for PDF graphics output in IDL? What would I
- > do with a single page of PDF graphics? Can I insert it into a document
- > (as I would with Postscript)?

PDF graphics are useful for people creating PDF documents with pdftex or pdflatex.
Most existing pdftex implementations can import PDF graphics, but not PostScript (one exception being VTEX, a commercial variant). Open source pdftex implementations also can import PNG, JPEG, and some other bitmap formats, but lose the benefit of vector graphics.

I've been quite satisfied converting IDL PostScript graphics to PDF with ghostscript's ps2pdf. This should be a fairly general solution since ghostscript runs on a wide variety of platforms. And it's free. Consequently, I don't

see a real need for IDL to tack on PDF support.

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Subject: Re: .pdf, .png
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Mirko Vukovic (mvukovic@taz.telusa.com) writes:

- > First wish for 2000:
- >
- > graphical output in .pdf or .png formats.

Already done. Photoshop. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: .pdf, .png

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Mirko Vukovic wrote:

> graphical output in .pdf or .png formats.

WRITE_PNG and READ_PNG were introduced in IDL 5.2.

The ImageMagick 'convert' utility does an decent job of converting Postscript to PDF, even though it converts vector output to bitmap output.

<http://www.wizards.dupont.com/cristy/>

Does anyone else see a need for PDF graphics output in IDL? What would I do with a single page of PDF graphics? Can I insert it into a document (as I would with Postscript)?

Cheers,

Liam.

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Liam E. Gumley

Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: .pdf, .png

Posted by [Mirko Vukovic](#) on Thu, 06 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <38741EC4.514E49DF@fafnir.uchicago.edu>,

"David G. Grier" <grier@fafnir.uchicago.edu> wrote:

> I've been quite satisfied converting IDL PostScript graphics to PDF with

> ghostscript's ps2pdf.

The very thing I tried yesterday with GS5.1 at home. But it produced no pages of output. I'll try today with GS5.5 at work.

BTW, thanks for explaining why I needed the converter :-). I am currently taking the dvi2pdfm approach (MikTeX distribution), and will investigate the pdflatex later on.

Mirko

Sent via Deja.com <http://www.deja.com/>
Before you buy.
