
Subject: Postscript simplifying and example procedures

Posted by [deutsch](#) on Thu, 20 Jan 1994 02:25:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

For those who were interested in the PostScript examples I posted earlier (and confused at my inclusion of non-standard functions), I have made available a small suite of Postscript handling and supporting procedures. They're not terribly sophisticated, but they do help with mundane PostScript printing chores (I think).

They may be found in /pub/idl/postscript in the anonymous FTP account of orca.astro.washington.edu. Briefly, it contains:

PSSPEXEMPL - Heavily commented example of using Postscript hardware fonts;
 includes examples of Angstrom, Greek, special, double-stroke
CHARSETS - Prints out whole Postscript hardware font character sets
SETPS - Open Postscript stream with several sizing/positioning options
PSCLOSE - Close PostScript output with automatic printing options
PSOUT - Dump out an image (or graphics window) to a PostScript file
STRN * - Convert any datatype to string with formatting options
VECT * - Convert a vector (array) into a delimiter-separated list
GETDEFVAL ** - Standardized way of retrieving info from a defaults file

* also in the Astronomy Users Library (GSFC)

** called by PSCLOSE but not generally useful unless you have ASTRONLIB.

I'll be happy to take comments or questions regarding these procedures or the general PostScript topic.

cheers,
Eric

Eric Deutsch	Email: deutsch@astro.washington.edu
Department of Astronomy FM-20	Voice: (206) 543-1979
University of Washington	FAX: (206) 685-0403
Seattle, WA 98195	Johnson Hall, Room 226

Subject: Re: postscript

Posted by [8015](#) on Tue, 20 Sep 1994 17:16:32 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <1994Sep19.175952.24490@msuvx1.memphis.edu>,
PAVAN VEMULAKONDA <pvemulakonda@cc.memphis.edu> wrote:
> I want to convert the image on screen to a postscript file to get a
> printout, how can I do it on IDL.

>
> pavan

I'll assume the display device is correctly set to the window you wish to convert to a postscript file.

```
IDL> image = tvrd() ; read the data from the current graphics window
IDL> set_plot, 'ps' ; set the plot device to postscript
IDL> tv, image ; display the data into the postscript file (idl.ps)
IDL> device, /close ; close the device (add'l info sent to idl.ps)
```

See Chapter 3, "IDL Graphics Devices" of the IDL Reference Guide for a description of the keywords available for postscript devices. There is quite a bit of info in there regarding scaling and color mapping.

Mike Schienle Hughes Santa Barbara Research Center
8015@sbsun0010.sbr.hac.com 75 Coromar Drive, M/S B28/87
Voice: (805)562-7466 Fax: (805)562-7881 Goleta, CA 93117

Subject: Re: postscript
Posted by [Geoff.Sobering](#) on Mon, 03 Oct 1994 14:49:28 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Some time ago, I wrote the following short procedures to simplify the process of directing IDL graphics to a PostScript printer. There are two routines, 'pso' and 'psc'. 'pso' sets the plot device to "PS", and 'psc' spools the file to the printer and returns the plot device to whatever it was.

Most commonly, I construct a graphics command (or commands) with the output appearing on the screen, then type 'pso', re-execute the graphics command(s) from the command buffer, and enter 'pso' to spool the graphic to the printer.

Because of the 'spawn'ed 'lpr' command and the UNIX filename syntax, these are pretty specific to UNIX, however, they should be pretty easy to adapt to other OSes.

--
Geoff Sobering (Geoff.Sobering@nih.gov)
In Vivo NMR Research Center
National Institutes of Health

--- pso.pro -----

PRO pso

; 1/17/92 @(#)pso.pro 2.2 In Vivo NMR Research Center, NIH

COMMON ps_switch, old_plot_dev, ps_set

IF keyword_set(ps_set) THEN BEGIN

message, /inform, 'PostScript output already set.'

ENDIF ELSE BEGIN

; Change the plot-device and flag to 'PS':

old_plot_dev = !D.NAME

set_plot, 'PS'

ps_set = 1

; Put the 'idl.ps' file in the users home directory:

device, file=getenv('HOME')+'/idl.ps'

ENDELSE

RETURN

END

-- psc.pro -----

PRO psc

; 1/17/92 @(#)psc.pro 2.2 In Vivo NMR Research Center, NIH

COMMON ps_switch, old_plot_dev, ps_set

IF NOT keyword_set(ps_set) THEN BEGIN

message, /inform, 'PostScript output not set.'

ENDIF ELSE BEGIN

; Close the plot-file:

device, /close

; Sent the plot-file to the printer:

spawn, 'lpr \$HOME/idl.ps'

; Reset the plot-device and flag:

set_plot, old_plot_dev

ps_set = 0

ENDELSE

RETURN

END