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Subject: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Simon Webster](#) on Tue, 17 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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Hi,

I'm producing postscript files with idl to go in a latex article. Everything is fine when i just have one plot on the page, but when i used !p.multi=[0,2,0] latex acted as though the second graph didn't exist, overwriting the plot with text. Is this a known problem and is there any way around it?

thanks  
simon

(ps David, thanks for the help with the previous query)

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [promashkin](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

> I spent two days with the LaTeX manuals, then figured  
> out how to do a global search and replace. I let a week  
> or 10 days go by while I sort of got used to the new  
> place, etc. Finally, I told them I was finished with  
> the job. They were so impressed with how short a time  
> it took me that they gave me a \$700 bonus, as I recall. :-)

Dang! It sure sounds like I am in a wrong business :-(

Cheers,  
Pavel

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [noymer](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <gurman-793C78.10341818102000@news.crosslink.net>,  
"Joseph B. Gurman" <gurman@ari.net> wrote:

> in the macro (usually called something like "psfig")

As I and several others have pointed out, EPS not PS files should be used, so perhaps you mean epsfig? which is obsolete and maintained only for backwards compatibility.

> By the way, the macros are written in TeX (as opposed to LaTeX),

Macro internals are *irrelevant* here. RTFM and you won't *ever* have to look at a macro internal, at least not for something so mundane as inserting an EPS file.

> usage in which "user" matches that of "drug user." I wish we could  
> forget about LaTeX entirely, but many professional journals and

Excuse me, I thought this was comp.lang.idl-pvwave

> They claim it's "free," not counting the number of sys admin  
> hours required to get dvi2<output device> software to work,

If it takes your sysadmin hours to do this, methinks you need a new sysadmin.

Just my \$0.02. :-)

- Andrew

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Theo Brauers](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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I had no problems so far with multi frame plot in latex. However, I write "ordinary" postscript output in IDL and I convert the files using gview into eps. In latex I use

```
....  
\usepackage{graphicx}  
....  
\begin{figure}  
  \figbox*{}{\includegraphics[width=8.3cm,angle=0]{ohvsjo1d. eps}}  
  \caption[]{\label{Figohvsjo1d} Correlation ....}  
\end{figure}  
....
```

Best Theo

Simon Webster wrote:

>  
> Hi,  
>  
> I'm producing postscript files with idl to go in a latex article.  
> Everything is fine when i just have one plot on the page, but when i  
> used !p.multi=[0,2,0] latex acted as though the second graph didn't  
> exist, overwriting the plot with text. Is this a known problem and is  
> there any way around it?  
>  
> thanks  
> simon  
>  
> (ps David, thanks for the help with the previous query)  
>  
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Dr. Theo Brauers  
Institut fuer Atmosphaerische Chemie (ICG-3)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich  
52425 JUELICH, Germany  
Tel. +49-2461-61-6646 Fax. +49-2461-61-5346  
<http://www.kfa-juelich.de/icg/icg3/MITARBEITER/th.brauers.ht ml>

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Joseph B. Gurman](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <8siknI\$g4k\$1@nnrp1.deja.com>, Simon Webster  
<simon@nonsense.co.uk> wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I'm producing postscript files with idl to go in a latex article.  
> Everything is fine when i just have one plot on the page, but when i  
> used !p.multi=[0,2,0] latex acted as though the second graph didn't  
> exist, overwriting the plot with text. Is this a known problem and is  
> there any way around it?

Given the comments from the previous posters, I would guess that the problem lies in the macro (usually called something like "psfig") you're using to insert the PostScript graphic, or even more likely the arguments you pass it. I remember one macro (mercifully, I forget its name and that of its author) that misdocumented the order of the height and width parameters, and that produced the sort of behavior you're seeing.

By the way, the macros are written in TeX (as opposed to LaTeX), so they may look a little strange to LaTeX users. (This is definitely a usage in which "user" matches that of "drug user." I wish we could forget about LaTeX entirely, but many professional journals and conference proceeding publishers appear enamored of this fine, 1980's technology. They claim it's "free," not counting the number of sys admin hours required to get dvi2<output device> software to work, user time to wrestle with recalcitrant, publisher-provided macros, and so on. We should free ourselves of LaTeX and paper at the same time, and have someone in the community develop a good equation-display facility [based on Donald Knuth's formalism for TeX, so no one has to relearn how to do it] for HTML. IMHO, of course.)

Unopinionated as ever,

Joe Gurman

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Nick Bower](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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> I'm producing postscript files with idl to go in a latex article.  
> Everything is fine when i just have one plot on the page, but when i  
> used !p.multi=[0,2,0] latex acted as though the second graph didn't  
> exist, overwriting the plot with text. Is this a known problem and is  
> there any way around it?

i can confirm there is no problem, encapsulated or not. I use !a column of 6 (p.multi=[0,1,6]) to the standard postscript device and all plots come out fine when merged into a latex output.

maybe it has something to do with you using [0,2,0] instead of [0,2,1]?

nick

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 19 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Nick Bower <bowern@ses.curtin.edu.au> writes:

>> As I and several others have pointed out, EPS not PS files  
>> should be used

>

> i think that's a bit harsh. dvi2ps does a superb job of merging  
> postscript into the output for me. plus you get the advantage of being  
> able to directly print the the printer. i think each method has its  
> advantages.

But it also doesn't handle landscape IDL files, which always come out  
upside down. Argh!

Craig

--

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Nick Bower](#) on Thu, 19 Oct 2000 17:11:58 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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> forget about LaTeX entirely, but many professional journals and  
> conference proceeding publishers appear enamored of this fine, 1980's  
> technology.

have something else in mind that separates style from content so well? :)

> They claim it's "free," not counting the number of sys admin  
> hours required to get dvi2<output device> software to work, user time to  
> wrestle with recalcitrant, publisher-provided macros, and so on.

hehe - use a linux distribution. all packages are pre-configured. on  
mandrake for me, the font servers, ghostscript, tex and dvi2pdfm (better  
than the standard ghostscript&tex supplied distillers) worked seamlessly  
without a single bit of fiddling.

nick

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Nick Bower](#) on Thu, 19 Oct 2000 17:19:34 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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> As I and several others have pointed out, EPS not PS files  
> should be used

i think that's a bit harsh. dvi2ps does a superb job of merging  
postscript into the output for me. plus you get the advantage of being  
able to directly print the the printer. i think each method has its  
advantages.

nick

---

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [Nick Bower](#) on Fri, 20 Oct 2000 04:52:16 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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> But it also doesn't handle landscape IDL files, which always come out  
> upside down. Argh!

correct. and this is why there is an angle keyword to psfig.

```
\psfig{figure=myfig.ps,angle=-90.0,width=5in,clip=true}
```

the clip is used when you want to say tweak the bounding box to get rid of a  
plot title, and to tell latex to clip to the new limits, even though there's  
content outside of them.

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [msienkiewicz](#) on Tue, 24 Oct 2000 02:09:36 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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In article <39EF2B5E.19C01C50@ses.curtin.edu.au>,  
Nick Bower <bowern@ses.curtin.edu.au> wrote:

>  
> hehe - use a linux distribution. all packages are pre-configured. on  
> mandrake for me, the font servers, ghostscript, tex and dvi2pdfm (better  
> than the standard ghostscript&tex supplied distillers) worked seamlessly  
> without a single bit of fiddling.  
>  
> nick  
>

When I started working with TeX, building and installing it was kind of like  
a treasure hunt... you needed to go go around to various places to get

the pieces. Thomas Esser's teTeX package has made it much easier to build and install a TeX system on Unix.

As for IDL I have no problems including plots with or without !p.multi, encapsulated or not. Technically you should be using 'encapsulated' -- but I don't always like the bounding box that I get on plots. So, I often leave the /ENCAPSULATED off and then use a script 'psfixbb' to adjust the bounding box to the dimension that I like. (Author: Carsten Dominik ; see your favorite CTAN tex-archive/support/psfixbb )

Meta Sienkiewicz

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Subject: Re: IDL produced postscript files in latex  
Posted by [R.G.S.](#) on Thu, 26 Oct 2000 18:27:20 GMT  
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Hi Simon,  
I've been able to use IDL postscript output in latex a lot with no problems. If you can't get it working, feel free to email the ps figure and your latex command and maybe I can straighten it out.

Off hand I'd guess you have a bounding box problem. If you have ghostscript, click "show bounding box" and make sure it is larger than your image. If that is ok, then you may have the latex command incorrectly configured.

I use the include graphics package, (the psfig that others have posted is obsolete).

Cheers,  
bob  
stockwell (at) co-ra.com

Here is an example that I use (in a latex file)

```
\begin{figure}
\figbox*{}{}{
\centerline{\includegraphics[angle=180]{sea_meri.ps}}}
\vskip0.2in
```

\caption[The meridional winds from HWM-93 at a particular local time  
for each day of the year]{\small{The meridional winds from HWM-93 at a  
particular local time  
for each day of the year. The shaded areas are negative (southward) winds.  
The contours are at 4 m/s intervals.  
For the times 2:00 UT to 8:00 UT there is a significant southward wind  
component  
in the upper mesosphere from May through August.}}  
\label{hwm\_seasonal\_merid}}  
\end{figure}

Simon Webster <simon@nonsense.co.uk> wrote in message  
news:<8sikn1\$g4k\$1@nnrp1.deja.com>...

> Hi,  
>  
> I'm producing postscript files with idl to go in a latex article.  
> Everything is fine when i just have one plot on the page, but when i  
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