
Subject: Re: thumbnails

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 18:41:29 GMT

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steve (nobody@nowhere.com) writes:

> Does anyone know how to produce *.eps files with thumbnails (in IDL 5.x)?

IDL 5.4 has some new keywords for producing a PostScript preview image: PRE_XSIZE, PRE_YSIZE, PRE_DEPTH. These are suppose to allow you to create a preview, or thumbnail, image of a particular size.

I just tried it with a screen snapshot:

```
snapshot = TVRD(True=1)
Set_Plot, 'PS'
Device, /Encapsulate, /Preview, Pre_XSize=100, Pre_YSize=100, $
    Pre_Depth=8, Color=1
TV, snapshot, True=1
Device, /Close_File
```

IDL went away for 5-6 several seconds while the file was written.
But the resulting file was over 17 MBytes in size!

I think I'm going to stick to the tried and true way of
adding preview images in GhostView. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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Subject: Re: thumbnails

Posted by [dirk](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 19:14:07 GMT

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In article <MPG.150845c01328cd21989d75@news.frii.com>,
David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> steve (nobody@nowhere.com) writes:

>

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>
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> allow you to create a preview, or thumbnail, image of a particular
> size.

> I think I'm going to stick to the tried and true way of
> adding preview images in GhostView. :-(

David, is this a Windows GhostView feature? I don't see any options like this in the *nix versions. This is what you use to put postscript into Powerpoint and the like presentations, isn't it? I've heard that in powerpoint, you can't see a preview of the postscript plot while you are constructing the presentation, and can only see it during full display.

Anyone have tricks to get the two to programs to work better together?
(Thinking about thesis/job talks for next year... *sigh*)

Thanks, Dirk

Subject: Re: thumbnails
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 19:16:23 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

>
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>
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> Device, /Encapsulate, /Preview, Pre_XSize=100, Pre_YSize=100, \$
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> I think I'm going to stick to the tried and true way of
> adding preview images in GhostView. :-(

Oh David,

why would you like to have a preview of about 100cm x 100cm.
I believe the units are cm or am I wrong?

cheers
Reimar

--
R.Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

Subject: Re: thumbnails
Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 19:25:58 GMT
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Dirk Fabian wrote:

>
> In article <MPG.150845c01328cd21989d75@news.frii.com>,
> David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:
>> steve (nobody@nowhere.com) writes:
>>
>>> Does anyone know how to produce *.eps files with thumbnails (in IDL 5.x)?
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>> IDL 5.4 has some new keywords for producing a PostScript preview
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> David, is this a Windows GhostView feature? I don't see any options like
> this in the *nix versions. This is what you use to put postscript into
> Powerpoint and the like presentations, isn't it? I've heard that in
> powerpoint, you can't see a preview of the postscript plot while you are
> constructing the presentation, and can only see it during full display.

The epstool utility (which is part of GSview) converts PostScript files to EPS format and optionally allows a TIFF preview to be added:

<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~ghost/gsview/index.htm>

For example:

```
% epstool -b -t6p -oplot.eps plot.ps
```

Note that plot.ps would be created in IDL as a PostScript file in Portrait orientation, **not** an EPS file.

The TIFF preview added by epstool is displayed onscreen when the PostScript file is imported into applications such as Powerpoint or Word. However the PostScript version is rendered when the document is printed on a PostScript printer.

Cheers,

Liam.

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

Subject: Re: thumbnails

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 19:55:33 GMT

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David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) writes:

```
> I just tried it with a screen snapshot:
>
> snapshot = TVRD(True=1)
> Set_Plot, 'PS'
> Device, /Encapsulate, /Preview, Pre_XSize=100, Pre_YSize=100, $
>   Pre_Depth=8, Color=1
> TV, snapshot, True=1
> Device, /Close_File
>
> IDL went away for 5-6 several seconds while the file was written.
> But the resulting file was over 17 MBytes in size!
```

Whoops! Of course, I should have set the Preview keyword to 2, instead of 1. Now the delay is more on the order of 20 seconds and the file is over 24 MBytes in size. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: thumbnails
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 20:17:44 GMT
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Reimar Bauer (r.bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:

> Oh David,
>
> why would you like to have a preview of about 100cm x 100cm.
> I believe the units are cm or am I wrong?

Whoops! Of course. The documentation didn't mention anything about units so, naturally, I just assumed DEVICE coordinates. I should have known better. :-(

So this works well:

```
IDL> set_plot, 'ps'  
IDL> device, /encap, /color, pre_xsize=1, pre_ysize=1, /inches, $  
IDL> Pre_depth=8, file='test.eps', preview=2  
IDL> timage, snap  
IDL> device, /close
```

Takes a fraction of a second, and produces a 1 inch by 1 inch preview image that shows up nicely if I try to import it into Powerpoint.

Interestingly, the thumbnail doesn't show up if I am looking at the thumbnail view with the File Manager. File size is under 1 MByte.

Sorry for the confusion. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say I still feel partial to the GhostView "Add EPS Preview..." button, even though that thumbnail doesn't show up either with the

brain dead File Manager. But IDL is getting closer... :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: thumbnails

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2001 22:17:42 GMT

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

David Fanning wrote:

>

> Reimar Bauer (r.bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:

>

>> Oh David,

>>

>> why would you like to have a preview of about 100cm x 100cm.

>> I believe the units are cm or am I wrong?

>

> Whoops! Of course. The documentation didn't mention

> anything about units so, naturally, I just assumed

> DEVICE coordinates. I should have known better. :-(

They are device coordinates aren't they? Only thing is, after set_plot,'PS' the device becomes a euphemistic piece of paper, no?

:o)

paulv

--

Paul van Delst A little learning is a dangerous thing;
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring;
Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274 There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
Fax:(301)763-8545 And drinking largely sobers us again.
pvandelst@ncep.noaa.gov Alexander Pope.
