
Subject: plots for printing

Posted by [Dominik\[1\]](#) on Thu, 26 Jul 2001 12:16:44 GMT

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Hello there,

I need some plots for my report. And I made these plots with IDL (very good programm for visualisation). Than I take screen shots of the pictures and used it for printing.

The result was a wuite bad quality. Does somebody know, how I could do this in a better way to get a good resolution for printing (maybe 300 dpi)?

Thanks for your help

Dom

--

=====
Dominik Paul

Uniklinik Freiburg

Abt. Nuklearmedizin/PET

=====

Subject: Re: plots for printing

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 26 Jul 2001 22:11:03 GMT

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"Dominik Paul" <dpaul@ukl.uni-freiburg.de> wrote in message
news:9jp1ne\$14p\$1@n.ruf.uni-freiburg.de...

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Several people have recommended PostScript output to solve this problem. However the PostScript device can be difficult to configure. My usual mode of operation is to create the plot in a graphics window first, and when I'm happy with it, I send the plot to the PostScript device with the same aspect ratio and relative font sizes as the graphics window. The PSON and PSOFF routines described in my book "Practical IDL Programming" are designed for this purpose. These programs can be downloaded in the package of sample programs available at

http://www.gumley.com/PIP/About_Book.html

For example, say you created the following plot in a graphics window:

```
window, /free
device, decomposed=0
z = dist(64)
z = shift(z, 32, 32)
z = exp(-(z * 0.1)^2)
loadct, 3
shade_surf, z, xstyle=1, ystyle=1, charsize=2, $
  pixels=1000, xmargin=[4, 1], ymargin=[1, 0]
```

To reproduce the plot in a PostScript file:

```
pson
loadct, 3
shade_surf, z, xstyle=1, ystyle=1, charsize=2, $
  pixels=1000, xmargin=[4, 1], ymargin=[1, 0]
psoff
```

The first call to PSON selects the PostScript device, and opens an output file named 'idl.ps' by default. It also configures the PostScript device to have the same aspect ratio as the current graphics window, selects color output by default, and sets the PostScript font size to the same relative size as the graphics window. After the plot is created, PSOFF closes the output file, and reselects the graphics device that was active before PSON was called.

I used PSON and PSOFF to generate most of the figures in my book, and I continue to find these routines useful for creating PostScript output. For more details, see the book.

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
<http://www.gumley.com/>

Subject: Re: plots for printing
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Fri, 27 Jul 2001 20:21:00 GMT
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I use the PS device. Works very nicely. Color, too!

On Thu, 26 Jul 2001 14:16:44 +0200, "Dominik Paul" <dpaul@ukl.uni-freiburg.de> wrote:
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> Dom
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> --
> =====
> Dominik Paul
> Uniklinik Freiburg
> Abt. Nuklearmedizin/PET
> =====
>
>

Subject: Re: plots for printing
Posted by [david\[2\]](#) on Wed, 01 Aug 2001 12:29:54 GMT
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Dominik Paul writes:

>
> I need some plots for my report. And I made these plots with IDL (very good
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> in a better way to get a good resolution for printing (maybe 300 dpi)?

You might try MPI_PLOT. It will allow you to create
simple line plots, with lots of options for visualization.
But it will also allow you to save the file in various
formats, one of which is PostScript. That, of course,
is what you need if you want high-quality output.

http://www.dfanning.com/program/mpi_plot.zip

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

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