
Subject: Re: Two-page PostScript output

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Thu, 03 Jan 2002 20:53:14 GMT

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David Shadovitz wrote:

> I'd be thrilled if anyone could help on this one...
>
> I'm trying to write a two-page PostScript file, with one image per
> page. The following code almost works; it writes both images
> superimposed on one page.
>
> Set_Plot, 'PS', /Copy
> Device, filename='C:\file1.ps'
> for ilmage=0,1 do begin
> Contour, imageData(ilmage), ...
> endfor
> Device, /Close
>
> Device has an Output keyword which lets you specify device-specific
> commands, and thought that I could use that to force a page break. So I
> added this line right after the call to Contour:
>
> if (ilmage eq 0) then Device, Output='{ gsave} { showpage} { grestore} {
> newpath}'
>
> I got those PS commands from a multi-page PS file created outside of
> IDL. But that did not work.
>
> So, how do I put a page break into a PostScript file?

Use the ERASE procedure. For example, the following creates a two page PS file:

```
set_plot, 'PS'  
plot, indgen(10)  
erase  
contour, dist(32)  
device, /close
```

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

Subject: Re: Two-page PostScript output

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Thu, 03 Jan 2002 20:54:45 GMT

David Shadovitz wrote:

```
>
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> page. The following code almost works; it writes both images
> superimposed on one page.
>
> Set_Plot, 'PS', /Copy
> Device, filename='C:\file1.ps'
> for ilmage=0,1 do begin
>   Contour, imageData(ilmage), ...
> endfor
> Device, /Close
```

When I do things like the above, the graphics are on separate pages. Maybe it's a windows thing.

```
IDL> print, !version
{ x86 linux unix 5.4.1 Jan 16 2001    32    32}
```

paulv

--

Paul van Delst Religious and cultural
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP purity is a fundamentalist
Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274 fantasy
Fax:(301)763-8545 V.S.Naipaul

Subject: Re: Two-page PostScript output
Posted by [Dave Greenwood](#) on Thu, 03 Jan 2002 21:02:32 GMT
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David Shadovitz <david_shadovitz@xontech.com> wrote:

```
> I'd be thrilled if anyone could help on this one...
>
> I'm trying to write a two-page PostScript file, with one image per
> page. The following code almost works; it writes both images
> superimposed on one page.
>
> Set_Plot, 'PS', /Copy
> Device, filename='C:\file1.ps'
> for ilmage=0,1 do begin
>   Contour, imageData(ilmage), ...
> endfor
```

> Device, /Close
>
> Device has an Output keyword which lets you specify device-specific
> commands, and thought that I could use that to force a page break. So I
> added this line right after the call to Contour:
>
> if (ilimage eq 0) then Device, Output='{ gsave} { showpage} { grestore} {
> newpath}'
>
> I got those PS commands from a multi-page PS file created outside of
> IDL. But that did not work.
>
> So, how do I put a page break into a PostScript file?

Have you tried ERASE? My docs say it "starts a new page if the device is a printer". I'd assume PostScript is a "printer". Don't know if RSI makes the same assumption...

Dave

Dave Greenwood Email: Greenwoodde@ORNL.GOV
Oak Ridge National Lab %STD-W-DISCLAIMER, I only speak for myself

Subject: Re: Two-page PostScript output
Posted by [David Shadovitz](#) on Thu, 03 Jan 2002 22:46:39 GMT
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That did it! Very intuitive!
Thank you Liam, Dave and Paul.
-David

"Liam E. Gumley" wrote:

> David Shadovitz wrote:
>> So, how do I put a page break into a PostScript file?
>
> Use the ERASE procedure. For example, the following creates a two page
> PS file:
>
> set_plot, 'PS'
> plot, indgen(10)
> erase
> contour, dist(32)
> device, /close

Subject: Re: Two-page PostScript output
Posted by [thompson](#) on Thu, 03 Jan 2002 22:53:26 GMT
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Paul van Delst <paul.vandelst@noaa.gov> writes:

> David Shadovitz wrote:

>>

>> I'd be thrilled if anyone could help on this one...

>>

>> I'm trying to write a two-page PostScript file, with one image per
>> page. The following code almost works; it writes both images
>> superimposed on one page.

>>

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>> Device, filename='C:\file1.ps'

>> for ilmage=0,1 do begin

>> Contour, imageData(ilmage), ...

>> endfor

>> Device, /Close

> When I do things like the above, the graphics are on separate pages. Maybe
> it's a windows thing.

> IDL> print, !version

> { x86 linux unix 5.4.1 Jan 16 2001 32 32 }

Most likely, David has !P.NOERASE set to something other than zero, for some reason. That's the only thing I can figure. The simplest solution is to set it back to !P.NOERASE=0. Explicitly calling ERASE, as has already been suggested, is another solution.

Bill Thompson

Subject: Re: Two-page PostScript output
Posted by [David Shadovitz](#) on Fri, 04 Jan 2002 17:29:05 GMT
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Good call, Bill!

I had tried to simplify the code shown in my snippet. The actual code (which I inherited) doesn't call the Contour procedure directly. The code within the loop over images actually looks like this:

```
; Keep the color bar from erasing the classifications
!P.NoErase = 1
```

VSPLOT, info
!P.NoErase = 0

I did not realize that Erase or !P.NoErase would have an impact on the pagination.

It's a pleasure learning from you all.

-David

William Thompson wrote:

```
> Paul van Delst <paul.vandelst@noaa.gov> writes:
>
>> David Shadovitz wrote:
>>>
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>>> page. The following code almost works; it writes both images
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> reason. That's the only thing I can figure. The simplest solution is to set
> it back to !P.NOERASE=0. Explicitly calling ERASE, as has already been
> suggested, is another solution.
>
> Bill Thompson
```
