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Subject: Re: Postscript output mods

Posted by [S. Penzes](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 20:17:39 GMT

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S. Penzes wrote:

- > Sorry for what must be an oft asked question. What is the best way to
- > rotate my landscape Postscript output 90 degrees? Do I modify the
- > "plot, oplot, etc commands? Is there a keyword to the PS device? Do I
- > have to do the rotation with a PS program (aside: will ghostview do the
- > job) before I insert it into my MS Word?
- > Thanks
- > Steve
- >

Sorry people. I meant 180 degrees ... he says hoping to forestall all the comments about using Portrait.

Steve

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Subject: Re: Postscript output mods

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 20:50:05 GMT

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S. Penzes (Steven.Penzes@drdc-rddc.gc.ca) writes:

> S. Penzes wrote:

- >> Sorry for what must be an oft asked question. What is the best way to
- >> rotate my landscape Postscript output 90 degrees? Do I modify the
- >> "plot, oplot, etc commands? Is there a keyword to the PS device? Do I
- >> have to do the rotation with a PS program (aside: will ghostview do the
- >> job) before I insert it into my MS Word?
- >> Thanks
- >> Steve
- >>

- > Sorry people. I meant 180 degrees ... he says hoping to forestall all
- > the comments about using Portrait.

The problem is that PostScript (apparently) doesn't have a standard for what "landscape" is suppose to be. For example, if you open these files up in Ghostview and orient them as "seascape", they appear correctly. There is a "Swap Landscape" button in Ghostview do to this automatically. Here is what the documentation says about it:

\*\*\*\*\*

When the Swap Landscape option is checked, GSview swaps the meaning of Landscape and Seascape. Most of the Landscape documents that I have encountered require a 90 clockwise rotation of the paper to view. However, there is no standard and some documents need to be rotated the other way. The Swap Landscape button allows GSview to automatically

rotate the document the right way in response to the %%Orientation  
comment in the PostScript file.

\*\*\*\*\*

In any case, everything I've ever put PostScript files in has the  
ability to "flip" the image quickly. It doesn't seem to be much of  
a problem.

You could try putting your own orientation comments into the PostScript  
file with the OUTPUT keyword to the DEVICE command. Let us know if you  
get something like that to work.

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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

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Subject: Re: Postscript output mods

Posted by [fardal](#) on Fri, 10 Jan 2003 20:57:51 GMT

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"S. Penzes" <Steven.Penzes@drdc-rddc.gc.ca> wrote in message  
news:<1041884260.331402@coyote>...

> Sorry people. I meant 180 degrees ... he says hoping to forestall all  
> the comments about using Portrait.

Don't know how to do this in IDL. It sure is annoying when all your  
other programs think it should be oriented the other way. You didn't  
say what your platform was... If you have the pstops command (common on  
linux) you can say

```
pstops '0U(8.5in,11in)' infile.ps outfile.ps
```

There is probably a program on any platform to do something similar,  
or you can write it yourself with the advice here:

<http://www.physics.ohio-state.edu/~faqomatic/fom-serve/cache/140.html>

I would use a hack like the one below to automate the rotation (type dclose  
instead of device,/close to finish the file).

Mark Fardal

```
;returns currently open ps file
;THIS IS DANGEROUS--RSI MAY CHANGE HELP FORMAT
function getpsfile

on_error, 2
if (!d.name ne 'PS') then message, 'Not in PS device.'

help,/device,output=helptxt
file = (strsplit( strcompress( strtrim( helptxt[2], 2 ) ), ' ',/extract))[1]
if (file eq '<none>') then file = 'idl.ps'

return, file
end

pro dclose

filename = getpsfile()

device,/close

spawn, 'pstops "0U(8.5in,11in)" '+filename+' idl_tmp.ps'
spawn, 'mv -f idl_tmp.ps ' + filename

return
end
```

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Subject: Re: Postscript output mods  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sat, 11 Jan 2003 21:53:37 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

Dear S and David,

we have tried a lot of things to get idl output right rotated in landscape.  
It's impossible at the moment, so we have done a feature request.

Some of us are working on a routine which will write the rotation postscript  
command into the postscriptfile for each page.  
It is not finished. Sometimes it works ...

One more feature of this routine is to set the right boundingbox for eps  
files.

Reimar

> S. Penzes (Steven.Penzes@drdc-rddc.gc.ca) writes:  
>  
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> get something like that to work.  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

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Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de  
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/>

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

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