
Subject: EPS vs. PS

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 25 Aug 2004 05:11:38 GMT

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This isn't really an IDL question, but I figured that some of you might have dabbled more in image file formats that I have. I have some object graphics and created an EPS file (which looks really nice, BTW). I couldn't find any way to save the object graphics as normal PS. Despite David's notes on this (http://www.dfanning.com/ographics_tips/object_eps.html), I couldn't even get the printer thing to work.

It was then that I had what I thought was a brilliant idea. I used ImageMagick to convert the EPS to a PS. I printed out both files. The EPS file looked awesome -- everything nice and smooth and crisp. The printout of the PS file had some fuzziness about it. It appeared that the conversion was done by rasterizing the EPS and saving that as PS. The rasterization would have produced the fuzziness I saw. So, does anyone know how to convert EPS to PS and preserve the vector-ness of the EPS? Maybe there's an option of ImageMagick I don't know about yet or maybe even something in IDL itself? Ideas? Any PS gurus out there?

-Mike

Subject: Re: EPS vs. PS

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 26 Aug 2004 10:48:44 GMT

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Michael Wallace wrote:

```
> As circuitous as this is, I learned that I can do this with ImageMagick:
>
> convert file.eps file.pdf && convert file.pdf file.ps
>
>
> Going through PDF in the middle causes the final Postscript file to keep
> the vector information rather than changing it to raster image. The odd
> thing is that the simpler command causes the PS created to be a raster
> image.
>
> convert file.eps file.ps
>
> Strange behavior if you ask me.
>
>
> -Mike
```

You should try ps2ps from the ghostscript package.

```
{{{  
ps2ps input.eps input.ps  
}}}
```

Reimar

--

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

Subject: Re: EPS vs. PS

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Sun, 29 Aug 2004 22:11:01 GMT

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Michael Wallace wrote:

- > As circuitous as this is, I learned that I can do this with ImageMagick:
- >
- > convert file.eps file.pdf && convert file.pdf file.ps
- >
- >
- > Going through PDF in the middle causes the final Postscript file to keep
- > the vector information rather than changing it to raster image.

How do you know this? Are you sure it is not just a high-resolution image.

- > The odd
- > thing is that the simpler command causes the PS created to be a raster
- > image.
- >
- > convert file.eps file.ps
- >
- > Strange behavior if you ask me.

Not strange for an *image* manipulation program like ImageMagick. The strange thing is the behaviour you report for the PDF file.

--

Mark Hadfield "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoesa tatou"
m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz

Subject: Re: EPS vs. PS

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Tue, 07 Sep 2004 13:15:53 GMT

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```
>> As circuitous as this is, I learned that I can do this with ImageMagick:
>>
>> convert file.eps file.pdf && convert file.pdf file.ps
>>
>>
>> Going through PDF in the middle causes the final Postscript file to
>> keep the vector information rather than changing it to raster image.
>
>
> How do you know this? Are you sure it is not just a high-resolution image.
```

Yes. Looking at the PostScript file, you see actual postscript commands in the eps file, but the converted ps file has a raster image embedded. Also the latter file is orders of magnitude larger than the former.

```
>> The odd thing is that the simpler command causes the PS created to be
>> a raster image.
>>
>> convert file.eps file.ps
>>
>> Strange behavior if you ask me.
>
>
> Not strange for an *image* manipulation program like ImageMagick. The
> strange thing is the behaviour you report for the PDF file.
```

I think ImageMagick is doing a direct translation from PS commands to PDF commands... and so the commands are being preserved rather than being converted. Why it happens that way, I don't know.

-Mike
