
Subject: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [kirkland](#) on Fri, 15 Apr 2005 01:01:22 GMT
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Does someone know how (if it is possible) to write a plot in
PDF format from IDL ?

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [jm](#) on Fri, 15 Apr 2005 15:42:28 GMT
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Also in Mac OS X, you can go via Omnigraffle. Drop the eps onto an
Omnigraffle pane, then copy/paste the rendered image onto a Keynote or
Pages pane. Of course, you can add annotation to the graphic.

You can also export to PDF from Omnigraffle (say, for import to
Texshop). Seems to make much more compact PDFs than pstopdf. No need
for a license provided the number of objects is less than 20.

-John Mardaljevic

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 21 Apr 2005 02:31:04 GMT
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kirkland writes:

> This I know, but how could I write it directly from IDL without using
> a converter.

If wishes were horses, beggars would ride. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Thu, 21 Apr 2005 03:06:22 GMT

In article <1114050083.560319.239110@o13g2000cwo.googlegroups.com>, "kirkland" <aaamblard@yahoo.fr> wrote:

>> Write Postscript and then use one of many methods to convert to PDF
>> (Adobe Distiller, pstopdf, Illustrator, ...). Under Mac OS X, just
>> double-click the PS file.
>>
>> Ken Bowman
>
>
> This I know, but how could I write it directly from IDL without using
> a converter.
>

You could ask RSI to add a PDF device driver to IDL. If they did, I expect it would be a PS to PDF converter.

Ken Bowman

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [karo](#) on Thu, 21 Apr 2005 09:49:23 GMT
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Why not printing directly on Adobe PDF printer? It comes with Acrobat!

Regards
Karsten

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [Ken Mankoff](#) on Thu, 21 Apr 2005 15:16:25 GMT
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On Wed, 20 Apr 2005, kirkland wrote:
> This I know, but how could I write it directly from IDL without
> using a converter.

The PDF specs are publicly available on the Adobe site. Learn the protocol and write it out. The good news is I hear it is much easier to write a PDF than it is to read them.

-k.

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 21 Apr 2005 16:28:19 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

> If wishes were horses, beggars would ride. :-)

Whoa! I spoke too soon. :-)

Here is what I just did to create a PDF file directly
from IDL on my Windows machine:

(1) Downloaded the *free* CutePDF Writer software from the
fine folks at Globalscape. (Great FTP software, too!)

<http://www.cutepdf.com/>

(2) Typed the following commands in IDL:

```
IDL> set_plot, 'printer'  
IDL> a=dialog_printersetup()
```

At this point I selected the CutePDF Writer from my list of printers.

```
IDL> Plot, findgen(11)  
IDL> Device, /Close
```

Whala! A PDF document with my graphics was created! Easy, easy, easy!!

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Writing a plot in PDF format from IDL
Posted by [David Jackson](#) on Fri, 22 Apr 2005 15:29:43 GMT
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"David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1cd1827c1d7a30289899d9@news.frii.com...

> Here is what I just did to create a PDF file directly
> from IDL on my Windows machine:

>
> (1) Downloaded the *free* CutePDF Writer software from the
> fine folks at Globalscape. (Great FTP software, too!)
>
> <http://www.cutepdf.com/>
>
> (2) Typed the following commands in IDL:
>
> IDL> set_plot, 'printer'
> IDL> a=dialog_printersetup()
>
> At this point I selected the CutePDF Writer from my list of printers.
>
> IDL> Plot, findgen(11)
> IDL> Device, /Close
>
> Whala! A PDF document with my graphics was created! Easy, easy, easy!!

If you happen to have Adobe Acrobat, then you can just choose Adobe PDF in the printer choice and this works just as easily!

DJ
