
Subject: Re: embedding fonts in eps files

Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Mon, 15 May 2006 10:14:46 GMT

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Geoff Cureton wrote:

> I just submitted a journal manuscript (to IEEE-TGRS, if that helps), and
> used the IEEE-TGRS graphics file checker to check my encapsulated
> postscript figures (generated using IDL). The checker said that the eps
> files did not have the required fonts "embedded". Does anyone know if the
> embedding of fonts for IDL-generated EPS files is something that can be
> specified within IDL? Anyone had this problem before?

The only fonts IDL can use in eps output (AFAIK) are the base 14
postscript fonts that (at least in pdf) should never be embedded. But,
OK, if the journal insists:

1 - Convert the eps to pdf (epstopdf that comes with TeX distributions
will do just fine).

2 - Now the tricky bit: obtaining an eps file without the fonts:

```
gs -dNOPAUSE -dNOCACHE -dBATC -sDEVICE=epswrite \  
-sOutputFile=your-output-file.eps \  
your-source-file.pdf
```

(change file-names as needed)

This will replace the fonts with their outlines, and produce an eps
file that is perfectly acceptable (it doesn't rely on external files at
all).

Maarten

Subject: Re: embedding fonts in eps files

Posted by [George N. White III](#) on Mon, 15 May 2006 23:03:47 GMT

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On Mon, 15 May 2006, Maarten wrote:

>
> Geoff Cureton wrote:
>> I just submitted a journal manuscript (to IEEE-TGRS, if that helps), and
>> used the IEEE-TGRS graphics file checker to check my encapsulated
>> postscript figures (generated using IDL). The checker said that the eps
>> files did not have the required fonts "embedded". Does anyone know if the
>> embedding of fonts for IDL-generated EPS files is something that can be
>> specified within IDL? Anyone had this problem before?

- >
- > The only fonts IDL can use in eps output (AFAIK) are the base 14
- > postscript fonts that (at least in pdf) should never be embedded. But,
- > OK, if the journal insists:

Replacing fonts with outline paths in figures is generally the best approach. Many publishers (actually often the lowest bid print shop) are under the impression that EPS is what you get from Adobe Illustrator and nothing else, and expect to be able to load "EPS" files and edit them in Illustrator. There are still problems if the embedded font isn't one that is installed on the system running Illustrator.

- > 1 - Convert the eps to pdf (epstopdf that comes with TeX distributions
- > will do just fine).

I'm not sure this step is necessary -- perhaps it helps with certain files that call themselves EPS but really are something quite different.

- > 2 - Now the tricky bit: obtaining an eps file without the fonts:
- >
- > gs -dNOPAUSE -dNOCACHE -dBATCH -sDEVICE=epswrite \
- > -sOutputFile=your-output-file.eps \
- > your-source-file.pdf
- >
- > (change file-names as needed)
- >
- > This will replace the fonts with their outlines, and produce an eps
- > file that is perfectly acceptable (it doesn't rely on external files at
- > all).

The tricky thing here is to know that the "-dNOCACHE" converts fonts to outline paths, without it you get bitmaps!

--

George N. White III <aa056@chebucto.ns.ca>

Subject: Re: embedding fonts in eps files
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Tue, 16 May 2006 11:16:53 GMT
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George N. White III wrote:

- >> 1 - Convert the eps to pdf (epstopdf that comes with TeX distributions
- >> will do just fine).
- >
- > I'm not sure this step is necessary -- perhaps it helps with certain
- > files that call themselves EPS but really are something quite different.

Without out this step I've had problems with the epswrite module not being able to find the fonts. Since pdf includes the fonts (the URW replacements that is), and epstopdf knows where to find them, this step just adds some convenience.

Note that for some types of IDL graphics, you want to avoid jpeg compression that epstopdf uses by default on bitmaps. --nocompress might come in handy.

```
>> 2 - Now the tricky bit: obtaining an eps file without the fonts:
>>
>> gs -dNOPAUSE -dNOCACHE -d BATCH -sDEVICE=epswrite \
>>     -sOutputFile=your-output-file.eps \
>>     your-source-file.pdf
>>
>> (change file-names as needed)
>>
>> This will replace the fonts with their outlines, and produce an eps
>> file that is perfectly acceptable (it doesn't rely on external files at
>> all).
>
> The tricky thing here is to know that the "-dNOCACHE" converts fonts to
> outline paths, without it you get bitmaps!
```

No, without it, the original fonts will be referenced. Be aware though that the -dNOCACHE is considered a debug option, and that some versions of gs do not support it properly. (some versions between 8.00 (which worked) and 8.51 and later (which work too). Somewhere in between, things didn't work.

Maarten
