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Subject: Re: Writing eps files from iplot  
Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 23 Dec 2009 16:44:55 GMT  
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On Dec 23, 2:00 pm, John Mariska <mari...@nrl.navy.mil> wrote:  
> Producing decent eps plots for publication requires extensive control  
> over all aspects of the plot, such as the x- and y-sizes, the font  
> sizes, etc. I've always exercised this control using direct graphics.  
> The downside, of course, is what you see on the screen is not what ends  
> up in the eps file when you change the device--something we have all  
> asked to be fixed for so many years I've lost count. Once or twice a  
> year, I try to use itools to do publication quality plots. I just tried  
> again, and things have improved a bit, but not enough. Does anyone know  
> how to specify the x- and y-sizes of the bounding box in an eps file  
> written from an iplot window? All I can seem to get is 6"x4".  
>  
> John M.

All publication plots I made in recent years were done with the itools. I choose the aspect ratio with the dimensions keyword. The bounding box is the same as the window area (assuming you are exporting the whole window), so the placement of things in it is determined by the margins used.

With only vector elements in the plot, all that matters is the aspect ratio and the relative dimensions of the things in the plot (fonts, line widths, symbol sizes, margins), not an absolute size, since afterwards the eps can be rendered at any scale.

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Subject: Re: Writing eps files from iplot  
Posted by [John Mariska](#) on Wed, 23 Dec 2009 17:10:32 GMT  
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pp wrote:  
> On Dec 23, 2:00 pm, John Mariska <mari...@nrl.navy.mil> wrote:  
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Relative dimensions do help quite a bit, but it is frustrating that the units are device units. If one can work in cm or inches, then deciding on things like font sizes and other layout parameters is much easier. One does have to get all the plot elements with the right relative sizes so that they all scale well together.

I'm also still trying to figure out how to do a filled circle for data points in an iplot.

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Subject: Re: Writing eps files from iplot  
Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 23 Dec 2009 17:45:18 GMT  
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On Dec 23, 3:10 pm, John Mariska <mari...@nrl.navy.mil> wrote:  
> I'm also still trying to figure out how to do a filled circle for data  
> points in an iplot.

See

[http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse\\_thread/thread/d0a8273297d21059/](http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/d0a8273297d21059/)

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Subject: Re: Writing eps files from iplot  
Posted by [JM\[1\]](#) on Thu, 24 Dec 2009 17:20:52 GMT  
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Years ago I wrote (for myself) a set of routines to work transparently between X-windows and the PS device. They were written in total ignorance of David Fanning's routines (and no doubt all the poorer for that), but I've carried on using them because they cover my needs. Just like with David's routines, there's a 'head' and a 'tail' procedure that goes into every plotting procedure. The end-goal was nearly always either hardcopy or PDF files.

Put simply, the user specifies all page, plot and image dimensions in cm and, in the resulting PS/EPS file, the dimensions will be exactly what the user specified. Any windows that are displayed are scaled to very nearly match the specified dimensions - there's an associated image display routine that resamples images for display to the window device, but of course 'prints' the image at the full resolution to the PS device.

The extra coding is minimal, and now it's second nature to work up my plots in cm space - I find that especially useful for multiple plots

Your welcome to the code - let me know.

-John Mardaljevic

PS. Numerous examples of plots to exact cm co-ordinates in thesis chapters 3 to 6 here:

<http://www.iesd.dmu.ac.uk/~jm/doku.php?id=resources:thesis>

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