
Subject: Re: Multi-page graphics in IDL 8
Posted by [Mark Piper](#) on Fri, 03 Sep 2010 15:00:49 GMT
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On Sep 2, 2:33 pm, "Kenneth P. Bowman" <k-bow...@null.edu> wrote:
> We frequently use direct graphics and !P.MULTI to generate graphics output
> where there are multiple plots on multiple pages. It is not hard to make
> this work either to the display or to a PS file. When drawing to the display
> you can wait for a <cr> before moving to the next page. When creating PS, you
> just draw all the plots to a single file. The PS file can then be easily converted
> to a multi-page PDF file.
>
> With the new Graphics system, I can see how to draw multiple plots in a single
> window, but not how to create multi-page graphics. Is the concept of multi-page graphics
> not part of the new Graphics system?
>
> I can see that it could be done by keeping track of the number of plots in a window and
> saving the window to a graphics file when full, etc., but the result is then multiple PDF files
> rather than a single file.
>
> Am I missing something? Is there an easy way to do what I need with the New Graphics
> system, or do I need to stay with Classic Graphics.
>
> Thanks, Ken Bowman

Hi Ken,

Spawning a call to ImageMagick's 'convert' program will join several
PS files into a single PDF file:

```
infile = ['plot1.eps', 'plot2.eps']  
infile = strjoin(infile, ' ')  
outfile = 'plots.pdf'  
cmd = 'convert -density 300 ' + infile + ' -quality 100 ' + outfile  
spawn, cmd
```

mp

Subject: Re: Multi-page graphics in IDL 8
Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Fri, 03 Sep 2010 17:40:38 GMT
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In article
<8a5d65d5-be94-4b27-9e97-9fff6cfe4ba@u5g2000prn.googlegroups.com>,
Mark Piper <mpiper@ittvis.com> wrote:

> Spawning a call to ImageMagick's 'convert' program will join several

```
> PS files into a single PDF file:
>
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> infiles = strjoin(infiles, ' ')
> outfile = 'plots.pdf'
> cmd = 'convert -density 300 ' + infiles + ' -quality 100 ' + outfile
> spawn, cmd
```

Thanks. I'm aware of several ways to concatenate PDF files, but if New Graphics can't make multi-page documents, it will be a significant loss of convenience. In fact, I think we will have to stay with Old Graphics for most purposes.

Ken

Subject: Re: Multi-page graphics in IDL 8
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 07 Sep 2010 13:34:21 GMT
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Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:

```
> In article
> <8a5d65d5-be94-4b27-9e97-9ffff6cfe4ba@u5g2000prn.googlegroups.com>,
> Mark Piper <mpiper@ittvis.com> wrote:
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> Thanks. I'm aware of several ways to concatenate PDF files, but if New
> Graphics can't make multi-page documents, it will be a significant loss
> of convenience. In fact, I think we will have to stay with Old Graphics
> for most purposes.
```

Yeah, no kidding. But, just to clarify (since I don't create PDF files directly from IDL), are you saying that the creation of multi-page postscript files is no longer possible with IDL8 New Graphics?

cheers,

paulv
