
Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper

Posted by [penteado](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 05:28:18 GMT

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On Sep 25, 11:42 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

- > Does anyone have any ideas for producing PostScript
- > output from one of these fancy windows that I could
- > send to a printer and see ALL of the graphic?

Could it be like this

http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/8ba8bbace86d5213

?

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 13:03:24 GMT

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Paulo Penteado writes:

- > Could it be like this

- > http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/8ba8bbace86d5213

Uh, no, I don't think so. Even I have a hard time believing how bad THAT result turned out! Half my PostScript page is black! Saving the result from the graphics window wasn't as bad, but was still clipped, and there is apparently no way to choose a Landscape orientation from the window.

Still looking for answers... :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 16:54:56 GMT
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On 26 sep, 15:03, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Paulo Penteado writes:
>> Could it be like this
>> [http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/...](http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/...)
>
> Uh, no, I don't think so. Even I have a hard time
> believing how bad THAT result turned out! Half
> my PostScript page is black! Saving the result
> from the graphics window wasn't as bad, but was
> still clipped, and there is apparently no way
> to choose a Landscape orientation from the
> window.
>
> Still looking for answers... :-)
>
> Cheers,
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> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
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When I do :

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 17:02:15 GMT
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On 26 sep, 15:03, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Paulo Penteado writes:
>> Could it be like this
>> [http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/...](http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/...)
>
> Uh, no, I don't think so. Even I have a hard time
> believing how bad THAT result turned out! Half
> my PostScript page is black! Saving the result
> from the graphics window wasn't as bad, but was
> still clipped, and there is apparently no way
> to choose a Landscape orientation from the
> window.

>
> Still looking for answers... :-)
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> Cheers,
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> David
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> --
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> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
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> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

When I do:

```
p = plot(/TEST)
p.save,'test.ps'
```

I get an EPS file,

- 1) which appears truncated in GSVIEW 4.9 (actually, outside the page boundary but still there),
- 2) which can be inserted without any problem in MS Word,
- 3) which can be converted to PDF format (same GSVIEW) and then correctly viewed (ADOBE READER).

Where is the problem ?

(I did not try with colors)

alx.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 17:20:03 GMT
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alx writes:

> When I do:
> p = plot(/TEST)
> p.save,'test.ps'
> I get an EPS file,
> 1) which appears truncated in GSVIEW 4.9 (actually, outside the page
> boundary but still there),
> 2) which can be inserted without any problem in MS Word,
> 3) which can be converted to PDF format (same GSVIEW) and then
> correctly viewed (ADOBE READER).
> Where is the problem ?

Right. No problem at all. I should have thought
to use three pieces of software to accomplish this. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 17:25:06 GMT

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On Monday, September 26, 2011 1:20:03 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> Right. No problem at all. I should have thought
> to use three pieces of software to accomplish this. ;-)

Ockham's Sledgehammer. =)

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 17:49:19 GMT

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On 26 sep, 19:20, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> alx writes:

>> When I do:

>> p = plot(/TEST)

>> p.save,'test.ps'

>> I get an EPS file,

>> 1) which appears truncated in GSVIEW 4.9 (actually, outside the page
>> boundary but still there),

>> 2) which can be inserted without any problem in MS Word,

>> 3) which can be converted to PDF format (same GSVIEW) and then

>> correctly viewed (ADOBE READER).

>> Where is the problem ?

>

> Right. No problem at all. I should have thought

> to use three pieces of software to accomplish this. ;-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
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> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

I simply said that, from my side, everything is ok when I print the produced EPS file.

If you get a "11-inch square or something" plot, that is likely due to YOUR printing software.

Nothing to do with IDL.

alx.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 18:05:35 GMT
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alx writes:

> I simply said that, from my side, everything is ok when I print the
> produced EPS file.
> If you get a "11-inch square or something" plot, that is likely due to
> YOUR printing software.
> Nothing to do with IDL.

Ah, well, I have a couple of problems. First, I would like to be able to *view* my PostScript output before I print it, so I know what I am getting. I can't view the PS output from the IDL 8.1 graphics window, or from using the graphics window's SAVE method in GhostView. It is always clipped, presumably because it is so large.

The second problem is, I don't WANT to create an encapsulated PostScript file! I want to create a PostScript file in LANDSCAPE mode! This is also impossible to do with IDL 8.1 graphics. (Although kindly they let you get your hopes up by offering a LANDSCAPE keyword, which they proceed to ignore.)

I could live with an 84 MByte output file. Really, I could! If it was 84 MBytes of something I wanted to look at. But, alas, it isn't. :-(

I've updated my article to point out this workaround:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/ng_tips/blackpsbg.php

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

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Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 18:48:39 GMT
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On 26 sep, 20:05, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> alx writes:

>> I simply said that, from my side, everything is ok when I print the
>> produced EPS file.

>> If you get a "11-inch square or something" plot, that is likely due to
>> YOUR printing software.

>> Nothing to do with IDL.

>

> Ah, well, I have a couple of problems. First, I would
> like to be able to *view* my PostScript output before
> I print it, so I know what I am getting. I can't view
> the PS output from the IDL 8.1 graphics window, or from
> using the graphics window's SAVE method in GhostView.
> It is always clipped, presumably because it is so large.

>

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> encapsulated PostScript file! I want to create
> a PostScript file in LANDSCAPE mode! This is also
> impossible to do with IDL 8.1 graphics. (Although
> kindly they let you get your hopes up by offering
> a LANDSCAPE keyword, which they proceed to ignore.)

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> I've updated my article to point out this workaround:

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> http://www.idlcoyote.com/ng_tips/blackpsbg.php

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> Cheers,

>
> David
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> --
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> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
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> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Well, I now understand your point: you would like to create an high resolution Postscript output like by using the "set_plot,'PS'" DG command.

But I am afraid that the graphic.print/save command as well as the "print" button on graphic window is just able to create a copy of the window from your screen, with the same low resolution. As you can see by opening the EPS file and looking at the BoundingBox PS statement. This explains why "my" plot (640x512) was not too much clipped in GSVIEW. Yours was certainly a lot bigger.

People from ITTVIS have now to explain us how one can make a true, high resolution PostScript drawing by using NG !

Cheers,
alx.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 19:00:46 GMT
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alx writes:

> People from ITTVIS have now to explain us how one can make a true,
> high resolution PostScript drawing by using NG !

Right. Not to mention why we would be the least bit interested in paying more money for this uh, sad software. (I was actually thinking of another word that begins with "s", but that sounded too much like Coyote.) :-)

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 19:27:35 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 9/26/11 12:05 PM, David Fanning wrote:

> alx writes:

>

>> I simply said that, from my side, everything is ok when I print the
>> produced EPS file.

>> If you get a "11-inch square or something" plot, that is likely due to

>> YOUR printing software.

>> Nothing to do with IDL.

>

> Ah, well, I have a couple of problems. First, I would

> like to be able to *view* my PostScript output before

> I print it, so I know what I am getting. I can't view

> the PS output from the IDL 8.1 graphics window, or from

> using the graphics window's SAVE method in GhostView.

> It is always clipped, presumably because it is so large.

>

> The second problem is, I don't WANT to create an

> encapsulated PostScript file! I want to create

> a PostScript file in LANDSCAPE mode! This is also

> impossible to do with IDL 8.1 graphics. (Although

> kindly they let you get your hopes up by offering

> a LANDSCAPE keyword, which they proceed to ignore.)

The LANDSCAPE keyword is for PDF files only. From the help:

"LANDSCAPE

Note: This keyword is valid only for PDF files.

Set this keyword to indicate that the PDF output should be drawn in
landscape orientation. The default is portrait orientation."

> I could live with an 84 MByte output file. Really,

> I could! If it was 84 MBytes of something I wanted

> to look at. But, alas, it isn't. :-(

>

> I've updated my article to point out this workaround:

>

> http://www.idlcoyote.com/ng_tips/blackpsbg.php

>

> Cheers,

>
> David
>
>

--
Michael Galloy
www.michaelgalloy.com
Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>
Research Mathematician
Tech-X Corporation

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 19:42:55 GMT
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Michael Galloy writes:

> The LANDSCAPE keyword is for PDF files only. From the help:
>
> "LANDSCAPE
> Note: This keyword is valid only for PDF files.
>
> Set this keyword to indicate that the PDF output should be drawn in
> landscape orientation. The default is portrait orientation."

Ah, of course. Should have known. No reason for
landscape PostScript output, I guess. Thanks!

I suppose it is asking for too much to think I would
get an error message if I used a keyword that wasn't
allowed.

Cheers,

David

P.S. I guess I'll have to check with my children, but
is PostScript landscape mode s-o-o-o 1970s, in the same way
I'm told e-mail is? It's distressing, because I think
every PostScript file I make in the old graphics system
is PostScript landscape. I've *got* to get more up to date! :-(

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 19:59:15 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 9/26/11 1:42 PM, David Fanning wrote:

> Michael Galloy writes:

>

>> The LANDSCAPE keyword is for PDF files only. From the help:

>>

>> "LANDSCAPE

>> Note: This keyword is valid only for PDF files.

>>

>> Set this keyword to indicate that the PDF output should be drawn in
>> landscape orientation. The default is portrait orientation."

>

> Ah, of course. Should have known. No reason for

> landscape PostScript output, I guess. Thanks!

>

> I suppose it is asking for too much to think I would
> get an error message if I used a keyword that wasn't
> allowed.

Probably for the same reason that iTools routines accept any keyword without a complaint. I'm guessing they are relying too much on keyword inheritance.

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> P.S. I guess I'll have to check with my children, but

> is PostScript landscape mode s-o-o-o 1970s, in the same way

> I'm told e-mail is? It's distressing, because I think

> every PostScript file I make in the old graphics system

> is PostScript landscape. I've *got* to get more up to date! :-(

Well, I use PDF mostly for vector output now, except for IDL, where I create PS and convert to PDF. If I used function graphics, I would play around with the direct PDF output.

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

www.michaelgalloy.com

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 20:31:35 GMT
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Michael Galloy writes:

> Well, I use PDF mostly for vector output now, except for IDL, where I
> create PS and convert to PDF. If I used function graphics, I would play
> around with the direct PDF output

I would, but my list of function graphics bugs is already
as long as my arm. If I look into one more thing it is
guaranteed to get even longer! :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [penteado](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 20:38:22 GMT
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On Sep 26, 4:42 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Michael Galloy writes:
>> The LANDSCAPE keyword is for PDF files only. From the help:
>
>> "LANDSCAPE
>> Note: This keyword is valid only for PDF files.
>
>> Set this keyword to indicate that the PDF output should be drawn in
>> landscape orientation. The default is portrait orientation."
>
> Ah, of course. Should have known. No reason for

- > landscape PostScript output, I guess. Thanks!
- >
- > I suppose it is asking for too much to think I would
- > get an error message if I used a keyword that wasn't
- > allowed.

It sounds like the same limitations that Chris Torrence mentioned:

http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/68ee48aa7b427f20

Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 20:38:32 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

- > I would, but my list of function graphics bugs is already
- > as long as my arm. If I look into one more thing it is
- > guaranteed to get even longer! :-)

The thought occurs to me that we could use function graphics to teach the kids about the power of compound interest. Any study of FG defects would vividly illuminate the topic. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2011 20:56:33 GMT
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Paulo Penteado writes:

- > It sounds like the same limitations that Chris Torrence mentioned:
- >
- > http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/68ee48aa7b427f20

hread/thread/68ee48aa7b427f20

So, does anyone know if the conclusion that PostScript and encapsulated PostScript are essentially the same now is in fact true?

I have discovered that I can finally see the entire output that IDL is creating, if I switch my GhostView View format to "Ledger" from the normal "Letter" format. Of course, if I print the file from within GhostView and I am in Ledger format, the whole damn thing is clipped. So, I have to flip back to "Letter" view, where it is clipped on the display, but prints correctly. Sigh...

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: IDL 8.1 PostScript Output on a Sheet of Paper
Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Tue, 27 Sep 2011 03:16:57 GMT

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> P.S. I guess I'll have to check with my children, but
> is PostScript landscape mode s-o-o-o 1970s, in the same way
> I'm told e-mail is? It's distressing, because I think
> every PostScript file I make in the old graphics system
> is PostScript landscape. I've *got* to get more up to date! :-(

Actually, they are apparently all "seascape" (like landscape, but upside-down).

-Jeremy.