
Subject: Automatic Output to PS and Raster in Coyote Graphics

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 09 Dec 2011 18:40:51 GMT

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Folks,

Yesterday's announcement of big changes in Coyote Graphics routines was so...well, let's just say this is a pretty hard group to impress. So, Coyote and I decided to pull an all-nighter and come up with something REALLY good for you. (Most of Coyote's suggestions were, you know, not appropriate, but nothing new there!)

Anyway, we are trying again today with the announcement that Coyote Graphic routines can now send their output **directly** to PostScript and raster output files via a new OUTPUT keyword. The allowed values are:

- 'PS' - PostScript file
- 'EPS' - Encapsulated PostScript file
- 'PDF' - PDF file
- 'BMP' - BMP raster file
- 'GIF' - GIF raster file
- 'JPEG' - JPEG raster file
- 'PNG' - PNG raster file
- 'TIFF' - TIFF raster file

You will be asked for the name of the output file, unless you specify it with the OUTFILENAME keyword. The following Coyote Graphics routines allow this functionality: cgBarPlot, cgBoxPlot, cgHistoPlot, cgPlot, cgContour, cgImage, cgSurf, and cgShadeSurf.

This functionality assumes you have the usual third-party conversion software (ImageMagick and Ghostview or the equivalent) installed. It should not be used for multiple plots. It is really just a convenience for creating a single plot in a PostScript or raster file.

Taking advantage of the new OUTLINE keyword to cgContour, here is how you could make a PNG file of a filled contour plot:

```
cgLoadCT, 33, NColors=8, Bottom=1
cgContour, cgDemoData(2), NLevels=8, C_Colors=Indgen(8)+1, $
  /Fill, /Outline, Output='PNG', Outfilename='cgcontour.png'
```

As usual, Coyote Graphics documentation is here:

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/idldoc/cg/index.html>

And the Coyote Library code is here:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/zip_files/coyoteprograms.zip

Cheers,

David

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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: Automatic Output to PS and Raster in Coyote Graphics

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 12 Dec 2011 02:40:50 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

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There have been a couple of tweaks to this functionality over the weekend to make the functionality even easier to use. For example, now you can use the OUTPUT keyword to specify both the type of file output and the name of the output file:

```
cgPlot, cgDemodata(1), Output='myplot.png'  
cgSurf, cgDemodata(2), Output='mysurface.tif'  
cgImage, cgDemodata(7), /Axes, Output='myimage.pdf'
```

Here is an article that describes the functionality in a bit more detail:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/cg_tips/cgoutput.php

cgWindow and cgControl have both also been updated to all programmatic control of all supported types of output.

You will need to update your Coyote Library to use the functionality:

[http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/zip_files/coyoteprograms.z ip](http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/zip_files/coyoteprograms.zip)

And you will need third party software to do the conversions to PDF and raster file types. Details in the articles.

This is the cat's meow on my machine. Let me know if you are having any problems getting it to work on yours.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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