
Subject: PostScript Encapsulation Knowledge
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 08 Nov 2014 17:46:09 GMT
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Folks,

I've run into an interesting little problem. I have reason to want to know if the current PostScript device configuration is set up to make encapsulated PostScript output or not.

I wrote a function that takes the output of the Help, /Device command and parses the information contained in that output to discover the "mode" of encapsulation. Here is the relevant line of output:

Mode: Portrait, Non-Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Enabled

The problem is, in IDL 8.3.2 on Windows the encapsulation mode never changes!

```
IDL> Set_Plot, 'PS'  
IDL> Device, /Encapsulated  
IDL> Help, /Device
```

Available Graphics Devices: CGM HP METAFILE NULL PCL PRINTER PS WIN Z
Current graphics device: PS
File: C:\IDL\tester.eps
Mode: Portrait, Non-Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Enabled

I've confirmed the PostScript device *creates* an encapsulated PostScript file when I configure the device like this. It just never tells me it is doing so.

Is this the case in other versions of IDL, too?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: PostScript Encapsulation Knowledge
Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Sun, 09 Nov 2014 21:58:54 GMT

I have IDL 8.2 and get the same results

```
IDL> set_plot, 'ps'
```

```
IDL> device, /encapsulated
```

```
IDL> help, /device
```

Available Graphics Devices: CGM HP LJ NULL PCL PRINTER PS REGIS TEK X Z

Current graphics device: PS

File: <none>

Mode: Portrait, Non-Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Disabled

Subject: Re: PostScript Encapsulation Knowledge

Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Sun, 09 Nov 2014 22:56:42 GMT

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On Saturday, November 8, 2014 6:46:10 PM UTC+1, David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,

>

> I've run into an interesting little problem. I have reason to want to
> know if the current PostScript device configuration is set up to make
> encapsulated PostScript output or not.

>

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> and parses the information contained in that output to discover the
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> IDL> Device, /Encapsulated

> IDL> Help, /Device

>

> Available Graphics Devices: CGM HP METAFILE NULL PCL PRINTER PS WIN Z

> Current graphics device: PS

> File: C:\IDL\tester.eps

> Mode: Portrait, Non-Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Enabled

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> tells me it is doing so.

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>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hi David,

you should check the device after opening the file (= after the first plot command):

```
IDL> set_plot, 'ps'
IDL> device, /encapsulated
IDL> help, /device
  File: <none>
  Mode: Portrait, Non-Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Disabled
IDL> plot, dist(5)
IDL> help, /device
  File: idl.ps
  Mode: Portrait, Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Disabled
```

regards,
Lajos

Subject: Re: PostScript Encapsulation Knowledge
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 09 Nov 2014 23:31:42 GMT
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fawltlanguage@gmail.com writes:

> you should check the device after opening the file (= after the first plot command):
>
> IDL> set_plot, 'ps'
> IDL> device, /encapsulated
> IDL> help, /device
> File: <none>
> Mode: Portrait, Non-Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Disabled
> IDL> plot, dist(5)
> IDL> help, /device
> File: idl.ps
> Mode: Portrait, Encapsulated, EPSI Preview Disabled, Color Disabled

Yeah, too late by then. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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