Subject: Re: Producing graphics without screen display
Posted by M.Reuss on Tue, 16 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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The SET_PLOT routine determines the output device.
If you want to create a PostScript file, simply call

  SET_PLOT,'PS'

and all graphics output will be written to the file 'idl.ps'
in your default directory instead of to the screen.

After you have finished your plot, make sure to call

  DEVICE,/close

in order to close the file. Then you can send it to the printer.

Moreover, you can do lots of modifications to the PostScript output
using the DEVICE routine. The keywords of this routine are very
different for PostScript than for screen output.

All this should be documented in the IDL Reference Guide.

Yours

Matthias Reuss

Subject: Re: Producing graphics without screen display
Posted by M.W.Gardner on Tue, 16 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Gras Regis <gras@cepax2.observ-gr.fr> wrote:
>
> Is there a way to produce graphics (e.g. in postscript) without displaying
> anything on the screen?
>

Yes! if you use the set_plot command this redirects graphic output to the
specified driver. If you have a program and wish to direct output to a
postscript file then do the following :

> set_plot,'ps'
> device,filename='out.ps'

Subsequent output goes to the postscript file out.ps. See the 'device' manual
page for further options regarding orientation and size. When you have

finished plotting you must then close the file

> device,/close

and reset the output to normal (eg. x windows)

> set_plot,'x'

All the above commands can be incorporated into your program - however I find
that I need a separate graphics routine to reproduce exactly what you see on
the screen in the postscript format - one (of many?) quirks of IDL !

Hope that helps

Matt
--
-----> Matt Gardner EMAIL->m.W.gardner@uea.ac.uk PHONE->+44- 1603-592041
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 -- ------------------
        opinions are mine - http://www.uea.ac.uk/~e449

Subject: Re: Producing graphics without screen display
Posted by hahn on Tue, 16 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Gras Regis <gras@cepax2.observ-gr.fr> wrote:

> Is there a way to produce graphics (e.g. in postscript) without displaying
> anything on the screen?

You forgot to mention what operating system you are using: IDL uses
enviroment variables on Unix and VMS and checks for "IDL_DEVICE".
If found it passes that string as parameter to SET_PLOT.
Example:

   setenv IDL_DEVICE ps
or
   export IDL_DEVICE=ps

 If don't know if IDL for Windows behaves the same or searches the
ini-file.

Nevertheless IDL will print some lines into the log file which is
usually allocated to the screen. I haven't found a "quiet" option
to suppress that. Is there such a feature?

> Sincerely yours.

> *--- ---------------*
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Norbert Hahn