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Subject: Re: Using callable IDL from C / how to avoid IDL start up screen ?

Posted by [hahn](#) on Tue, 20 Feb 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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Dennis NEVEJANS <Dennis.Nevejans@oma.be> wrote:

> Hello callable IDL experts,

> I have the following problem while using IDL from a C program.

> This program plots data in postscript format to a file via calls to IDL (for  
> example `IDL_Executestr("plot,X,Y");`). The programs works fine but produces  
> every time an IDL interactive window which we don't need since the program is  
> not interactive at all and does only plot to files.

IDL uses the environment variable `IDL_DEVICE` to determine the initial output device. If `IDL_DEVICE` is set IDL calls `set_plot` with the given name. If `IDL_DEVICE` is not set IDL tries to start with `set_plot, 'X'` or `set_plot, 'WIN'` or some similar device depending on the operating system.

Note that if you output to PostScript you most likely need to call `DEVICE` to pass necessary parameters to the PostScript driver. Otherwise defaults are used such as portrait orientation, 8.5x11 inch paper, monochrome, filename `idl.ps` and more.

If you need a setup for European A4 or A3 paper drop me a mail...

> How does one get rid of this window? Is there a library call to avoid this?

> A solution is very welcome. Thanks beforehand for helping.

> Dennis Nevejans

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