
Subject: Re: PS file and annotate.pro?

Posted by [John Kwiatkowski](#) on Fri, 15 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I should mention that my goal is to have a single .ps file which contains my plot and any annotations. I've included the 'instructions' from the annotation.pro help file.

Thanks again,
John K.

Choose "Objects only" to save only the annotation objects. Use this mode to combine the annotations with PostScript commands that have already been output to obtain the highest resolution. To use this procedure, take the following steps:

1) Open the PostScript device and create the plot over which you wish your annotations to appear. Be sure that it has the same aspect ratio as does your drawing window. For example, if you have a 640 x 512 drawing window, and you wish to make your PostScript drawing 4 inches wide, the PostScript height or YSIZE must be set to $4.0 * 512 / 640 = 3.2$ inches, e.g. DEVICE, XSIZE=4, YSIZE=3.2, /INCHES.

2) Select the window system as your plot device, and re-execute the commands that produced the background you wish to annotate.

3) Call ANNOTATE, make your annotations, and then use this option to output the PostScript. The PostScript device is not closed upon completion, as it is with the other two PostScript output options.

John Kwiatkowski <johnmk@shell.clark.net> wrote:

: I'm probably missing something simple here... I hope. I want
: to use annotate (IDL 5.0) to create a PS file with a plot and
: annotation objects. I believe I'm following the annotate help to the
: letter. Any help would be appreciated.

: Thanks,
: John K.

```
: IDL> set_plot, 'ps  
: IDL> device, xsize=5 , ysize=4, /inches  
: For my 640 x 512 window  
: IDL> plot, findgen(10)  
: IDL> set_plot, 'x'
```

```
: IDL> plot, findgen(10)
: IDL> annotate
: Color=    0
:       I chose, write PostScript -> Objects only
:       Saved to 'idl.ps', the file opened by default above
:       Then exited annotate widget
: IDL> set_plot, 'ps'
: IDL> device, /close

: 'idl.ps' is now just a blank page. It does have a
:   PS header and Prolog in it.
:
```

Subject: Re: PS file and annotate.pro?
Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 15 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

John Kwiatkowski (johnmk@shell.clark.net) writes:

```
> I'm probably missing something simple here... I hope. I want
> to use annotate (IDL 5.0) to create a PS file with a plot and
> annotation objects. I believe I'm following the annotate help to the
> letter. Any help would be appreciated.
>
>           Thanks,
>           John K.
> IDL> set_plot, 'ps'
> IDL> device, xsize=5 , ysize=4, /inches
>       For my 640 x 512 window
> IDL> plot, findgen(10)
> IDL> set_plot, 'x'
> IDL> plot, findgen(10)
> IDL> annotate
> Color=    0
>       I chose, write PostScript -> Objects only
>       Saved to 'idl.ps', the file opened by default above
>       Then exited annotate widget
> IDL> set_plot, 'ps'
> IDL> device, /close
>
> 'idl.ps' is now just a blank page. It does have a
>   PS header and Prolog in it.
```

I don't know. I don't use Annotate and when I try to execute the code you have here Annotate crashes with a CASE STATEMENT FOUND NO MATCHES error. (Sigh...)

But my reading of the documentation (no guarantees) would suggest that you don't need that last Set_Plot, 'PS' command. I think what this is doing is causing the file that you actually created (and Annotate wrote into, presumably) to be overwritten. You might try giving your PostScript files unique names with the Filename keyword so this doesn't surprise you like this. :-)

Cheers,

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Phone: 970-221-0438
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
