
Subject: Re: Printing color line-plots on non-PS printers...
Posted by [Richard G. French](#) on Fri, 09 Oct 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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I've done a few experiments that might be of general interest, trying to print PostScript files on a non-PS color inkjet printer. I suspect that I do not have the correct driver for GhostView to work with my printer in color, but even the gray rendition has very jagged lines, presumably because it rasterizes the image rather coarsely.

I have had better success doing the following:

Save the plot in a PS file, with /COLOR enabled. You can choose either standard PS mode or /ENCAP for encapsulated PS. Then, should you have it, fire up Adobe Photoshop5.0. Import the file, and when it tells you it will rasterize the image, choose RGB rather than the default gray scale mode. For a quick print, the default 72 bpi is possibly adequate, but I found that I had to go to 300 bpi rasterization to get a good quality plot with uniform line weight, and characters that had smooth edges. This rasterization can generate a very large file (17 Mb in the example I did), and it is not particularly fast to print, but at least you can use your machine for other things while it is grinding away.

I'd still appreciate other ideas that might not involve so much messing around! If anyone has had good luck with PCL mode, that would be of interest.

> Dick French
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Subject: Re: Printing color line-plots on non-PS printers...
Posted by [David L. Windt](#) on Tue, 13 Oct 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Richard G. French wrote:

> I'd still appreciate other ideas that might not involve so much
> messing around! If anyone has had good luck with PCL mode, that
> would be of interest.
>

Here's another way, though it'll cost you:

Convert the PS file to PDF using Acrobat Distiller. You can then

print the file using Acrobat Reader. Reader is free, Distiller is not.
Aside from the high price (Acrobat goes for just under \$200), this
method works well for me.

-David Windt
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