
Subject: Re: Displaying degree symbol with Postscript fonts
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 18 Jul 2008 16:52:40 GMT
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Kenneth P. Bowman writes:

- > This is one of those things that everyone but me probably already
- > knows.
- >
- > To display the degree symbol in most Postscript fonts
- > (glyph B0 in hex), you have to set the /ISOLATIN1 keyword via the
- > DEVICE command. This is not the most obscure feature that I
- > have ever seen in IDL (perhaps we should start a top 10 list),
- > but it is right up there.

This is a good point, since Isolatin encoding is turned on by default with HERSHEY fonts, but turned off by default with hardware fonts of the sort you typically use in PostScript. Thus, it makes it a bit harder to write device-independent programs, because this is something you have to keep in mind.

To this end, I've made a change in my PSConfig suite of programs to set the ISOLATIN1 keyword to 1 by default, rather than to the normal 0. (The ISOLATIN1 keyword is accessed in PSCONFIG normally, by setting the FONTINFO keyword when you call the program. Most people, of course, have never used the FONTINFO keyword (including me).) So, setting the keyword by default will make this functionality mindlessly available to me and everyone else. :-)

You can download the PSCONFIG set of programs here:

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/psconfig.zip>

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
