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.")