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Subject: Re: calligraphic font

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 21 May 2013 18:29:19 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> I suppose the real problem is that there is no way I know of to obtain  
> the current true-type font programmatically, and I want to use true-type  
> fonts in PS\_Start, so I define a default one. Humm. :-(

OK, here is the real problem. I see I've dealt with this before.

The real problem is that to get the PostScript device to use a true-type font, you have to specify the font from \*within\* the PostScript device. In other words, this command:

```
Device, Set_Font='Times', /TT_FONT
```

Has to be issued after the SET\_PLOT, "PS" command. It does no good to issue it at the IDL command line if you want to make a PostScript file.

Since PS\_Start is issued at the IDL "command line" normally and sets up the PostScript file for you, that is why you have to use the TT\_FONT keyword to specify the font:

```
PS_Start, TT_Font='Times'
```

This allows it to issue the proper command after the PostScript device has been entered.

Then, of course, the PostScript device is "sticky" and it stays configured until you change it to something else. If I could figure out which true-type font was in effect at the command line (I don't know of any way to do this), I could keep the PostScript output in sync.

One way to handle this would be to write a cgSet\_TTFont command that would set the true-type font for both the display and for PostScript output. That way, I could keep things in sync. But, how many people would use it?

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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