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Subject: parallel sign in postscript output in device fonts (direct graphics)

Posted by [Xin Tao](#) on Fri, 30 Aug 2013 09:16:16 GMT

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Hi,

I have been trying to figure out how to output a parallel sign ('||') in postscript device font. In vector fonts, that's easy. I just need to use '!M'+string(35B)+'!X'. However, how to do this in a postscript file with device fonts? I've tried David's unicode method but got a box instead.

[http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics\\_tips/lesign.php](http://www.idlcoyote.com/graphics_tips/lesign.php)

Frequently I need to use parallel and perpendicular signs in plots. I've figured out how to add perpendicular sign, but not the parallel sign. Could someone please help me here?

Thanks a lot.

Xin Tao

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Subject: Re: parallel sign in postscript output in device fonts (direct graphics)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 30 Aug 2013 13:23:57 GMT

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Xin Tao writes:

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> Frequently I need to use parallel and perpendicular signs in plots. I've figured out how to add perpendicular sign, but not the parallel sign. Could someone please help me here?

If you are getting a box, it is because the font you are using doesn't support that Unicode symbol. I was successful with these commands:

```
ps_start
device, set_font='dejavusans', /tt_font
cgerase & cgText, 0.5, 0.5, Align=0.5, /Normal, $
  'This is parallel symbol: ' + '!Z(2225)', font=1
ps_end
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: parallel sign in postscript output in device fonts (direct graphics)  
Posted by [Xin Tao](#) on Wed, 04 Sep 2013 00:47:20 GMT  
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Thanks, David.

Best,

Xin Tao

On Friday, August 30, 2013 9:23:57 PM UTC+8, David Fanning wrote:

> Xin Tao writes:

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>
> David
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> --
>
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
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> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
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