

---

Subject: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [kdpenner](#) on Wed, 12 Feb 2014 00:42:09 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi everyone,

I'm using the Phoenician aleph as a symbol in some text, and I'd like to use it on the x axis label of a PostScript plot. I can find the Hebrew aleph, but the Phoenician one looks quite different. It's Unicode 10900, which I can't get to work. Any ideas?

Thanks,

Kyle

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Wed, 12 Feb 2014 03:40:54 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tuesday, February 11, 2014 5:42:09 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:

> Hi everyone,

>

>

>

> I'm using the Phoenician aleph as a symbol in some text, and I'd like to use it on the x axis label of a PostScript plot. I can find the Hebrew aleph, but the Phoenician one looks quite different. It's Unicode 10900, which I can't get to work. Any ideas?

>

>

>

> Thanks,

>

>

>

> Kyle

Hi Kyle,

I think you might be out of luck, unless someone has a brilliant workaround. Right now, IDL's graphics only handle 16-bit Unicode characters (up to \$FFFF). Here's the error I get:

```
w = WINDOW()
```

```
; Works fine
```

```
t = TEXT(0.5, 0.5, "$\U(266A,266C) \Pluto's really small \U(266B)$")
```

```
; Doesn't work
```

```
t = TEXT(0.5, 0.5, "$\U(10900)$", font_size=48)
```

```
% IDLGRSRCDEST::GETTEXTDIMENSIONS: Error using Hershey characters: !Z hexadecimal value too large.
```

% IDLGRMODEL::DRAW: Error using Hershey characters: !Z hexadecimal value too large.

-Chris  
ExelisVIS

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph  
Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Wed, 12 Feb 2014 12:44:45 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tue, 11 Feb 2014 16:42:09 -0800 (PST), [kdpenner@gmail.com](mailto:kdpenner@gmail.com) wrote:

> I'm using the Phoenician aleph as a symbol in some text, and I'd like to use it on the x axis label of a PostScript plot. I can find the Hebrew aleph, but the Phoenician one looks quite different. It's Unicode 10900, which I can't get to work. Any ideas?

For Hershey Fonts (i.e. !P.FONT = -1), the following workaround may help:

```
aleph='!3!s<!r!i !n!d !n!x'  
erase  
xyouts,.1,.1,size=5,'Text '+aleph+' Text'
```

It's not beautiful, but maybe readable.

Cheers, Heinz

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph  
Posted by [kdpenner](#) on Wed, 12 Feb 2014 19:25:16 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Chris, that's the same error I got---was wondering what's up. Thanks for the explanation.

Heinz, thanks! The following also works (though it's not more pretty, unfortunately), if anyone wants device fonts:

```
!p.font=0  
set_plot, 'ps'  
data=[1,2,3]  
aleph='!s<!r!d !n!d !n'  
device, file='idl.ps'  
plot, data, data, xtitle=aleph  
device, /close
```

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Fri, 14 Feb 2014 15:48:43 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Wednesday, February 12, 2014 12:25:16 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:

> Chris, that's the same error I got---was wondering what's up. Thanks for the explanation.

>

>

>

> Heinz, thanks! The following also works (though it's not more pretty, unfortunately), if anyone wants device fonts:

>

>

>

> !p.font=0

>

> set\_plot, 'ps'

>

> data=[1,2,3]

>

> aleph='!s<!r!d !n!d !n'

>

> device, file='idl.ps'

>

> plot, data, data, xtitle=aleph

>

> device, /close

Hi Kyle,

Do you have a font that contains this character? I've hacked up IDL to get past the error, and I want to see if I can actually get the character on the screen...

-Chris

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Fri, 14 Feb 2014 15:55:45 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Friday, February 14, 2014 8:48:43 AM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:

> On Wednesday, February 12, 2014 12:25:16 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>> Chris, that's the same error I got---was wondering what's up. Thanks for the explanation.

>

>>

>

>>

>

>>

```

>
>> Heinz, thanks! The following also works (though it's not more pretty, unfortunately), if anyone
wants device fonts:
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> !p.font=0
>
>>
>
>> set_plot, 'ps'
>
>>
>
>> data=[1,2,3]
>
>>
>
>> aleph='!s<!r!d !n|!d !n'
>
>>
>
>> device, file='idl.ps'
>
>>
>
>> plot, data, data, xtitle=aleph
>
>>
>
>> device, /close
>
>
>
> Hi Kyle,
>
> Do you have a font that contains this character? I've hacked up IDL to get past the error, and I
want to see if I can actually get the character on the screen...
>
> -Chris

```

In the meantime, you could probably just download a font that had all of those characters in the "normal" A-Z positions:

<http://29letters.wordpress.com/2007/07/05/fniqiya-type/>

-Chris

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Fri, 14 Feb 2014 15:56:56 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Friday, February 14, 2014 8:48:43 AM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:

> On Wednesday, February 12, 2014 12:25:16 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>> Chris, that's the same error I got---was wondering what's up. Thanks for the explanation.

>

>>

>

>>

>

>>

>

>> Heinz, thanks! The following also works (though it's not more pretty, unfortunately), if anyone wants device fonts:

>

>>

>

>>

>

>>

>

>> !p.font=0

>

>>

>

>> set\_plot, 'ps'

>

>>

>

>> data=[1,2,3]

>

>>

>

>> aleph='!s<!r!d !n!|d !n'

>

>>

>

>> device, file='idl.ps'

>

>>

>

>> plot, data, data, xtitle=aleph

>  
>>  
>  
>> device, /close  
>  
>  
>  
> Hi Kyle,  
>  
> Do you have a font that contains this character? I've hacked up IDL to get past the error, and I want to see if I can actually get the character on the screen...  
>  
> -Chris

I messed up the link. Here is a font that has the characters in the normal A-Z range:

<http://29letters.wordpress.com/2007/07/05/fniqiya-type/>

-Chris

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph  
Posted by [kdpenner](#) on Fri, 14 Feb 2014 19:26:20 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Friday, February 14, 2014 8:56:56 AM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:  
> On Friday, February 14, 2014 8:48:43 AM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:  
>  
>> On Wednesday, February 12, 2014 12:25:16 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:  
>  
>>  
>  
>>> Chris, that's the same error I got---was wondering what's up. Thanks for the explanation.  
>  
>>  
>  
>>>  
>  
>>  
>  
>>>  
>  
>>  
>  
>>>  
>  
>>  
>  
>>>  
>  
>>  
>

>>> Heinz, thanks! The following also works (though it's not more pretty, unfortunately), if anyone wants device fonts:

```
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>> !p.font=0
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>> set_plot, 'ps'
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>> data=[1,2,3]
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>> aleph='!s<!r!d !n|!d !n'
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
```

```

>
>>> device, file='idl.ps'
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>> plot, data, data, xtitle=aleph
>
>>
>
>>>
>
>>
>
>>> device, /close
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>>
>
>> Hi Kyle,
>
>>
>
>> Do you have a font that contains this character? I've hacked up IDL to get past the error, and I
want to see if I can actually get the character on the screen...
>
>>
>
>> -Chris
>
>
>
> I messed up the link. Here is a font that has the characters in the normal A-Z range:
>
>
>
> http://29letters.wordpress.com/2007/07/05/fniqiya-type/
>
>
>
> -Chris

```



Aegean.ttf has it:

<http://users.teilar.gr/~g1951d/>

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Tue, 18 Feb 2014 21:26:30 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Friday, February 14, 2014 12:26:20 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:

>  
> Aegean.ttf has it:  
>  
>  
>  
> <http://users.teilar.gr/~g1951d/>

Okay, I just modified the IDL internals to allow Unicode characters of up to 8 hexadecimal digits. This is *only* for object graphics and new graphics. I wasn't able to do it for direct graphics because of the way IDL reads in truetype font files.

This change will ship with the next version of IDL (don't know when).

In the meantime, I would recommend using a font (like the one in the wordpress link) that has these characters down in the lower A-Z range. You won't be able to mix those characters with regular ASCII characters, but at least you can display them.

Cheers,  
-Chris  
ExelisVIS

---

---

Subject: Re: Phoenician aleph

Posted by [kdpenner](#) on Wed, 19 Feb 2014 20:17:26 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tuesday, February 18, 2014 2:26:30 PM UTC-7, Chris Torrence wrote:

> On Friday, February 14, 2014 12:26:20 PM UTC-7, kdpe...@gmail.com wrote:  
>  
>>  
>  
>> Aegean.ttf has it:  
>  
>>  
>  
>>  
>

>>  
>  
>> <http://users.teilar.gr/~g1951d/>  
>  
>  
>  
> Okay, I just modified the IDL internals to allow Unicode characters of up to 8 hexadecimal digits. This is *\*only\** for object graphics and new graphics. I wasn't able to do it for direct graphics because of the way IDL reads in truetype font files.  
>  
>  
>  
> This change will ship with the next version of IDL (don't know when).  
>  
>  
>  
> In the meantime, I would recommend using a font (like the one in the [wordpress link](#)) that has these characters down in the lower A-Z range. You won't be able to mix those characters with regular ASCII characters, but at least you can display them.  
>  
>  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> -Chris  
>  
> ExelisVIS

Excellent, thanks.

---