
Subject: Re: Z-buffer font quality
Posted by [mgs](#) on Fri, 02 Apr 1999 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <7e37ig\$vv@post.gsfc.nasa.gov>, fireman@mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov
(Gwyn Fireman) wrote:

> David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) wrote:

...

> I guess I am picky - the result still looks fuzzy and a little chunky
> to me. I *much* prefer PostScript fonts and would use PS but for two
> things:

>

> - Much of my work can end up both in internal memos and on our intranet
> web site, and it seems that GIF is the portable way to do that.

>

> - EPS with preview doesn't show up in Word, and when I have many similar
> plots to put in a document I don't like to rely on filename alone.

>

> Looks like I'll need to take the time to read your PostScript chapter
> and try your tools!

You might want to approach this another way. Write the graphics out in PS,
then use something like Adobe Distiller to create PDF's, which are
extremely portable as well as having high resolution. You could also use
GhostScript to write output to any of several formats, including GIF,
TIFF, PDF, etc.

--

Mike Schienle
mgs@ivsoftware.com
<http://www.ivsoftware.com/>

Interactive Visuals, Inc.
Remote Sensing and Image Processing
Analysis and Application Development

Subject: Re: Z-buffer font quality
Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 02 Apr 1999 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Gwyn Fireman (fireman@mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov) writes:

> I guess I am picky - the result still looks fuzzy and a little chunky
> to me.

Well, 1200 dpi verse 75 dpi. Even a picture of me might look better
at that resolution!

> I *much* prefer PostScript fonts and would use PS but for two
> things:

>
> - Much of my work can end up both in internal memos and on our intranet
> web site, and it seems that GIF is the portable way to do that.

I would consider going to JPEG. Files are smaller, color is better (it seems to me). Almost all software can read it, etc.

> - EPS with preview doesn't show up in Word, and when I have many similar
> plots to put in a document I don't like to rely on filename alone.

Preview is suppose to be fixed "real soon now". :-)

> Looks like I'll need to take the time to read your PostScript chapter
> and try your tools!

Couldn't hurt. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Z-buffer font quality
Posted by [fireman](#) on Fri, 02 Apr 1999 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) wrote:

: Well, I usually write to the Z-buffer at twice the resolution that
: I want to see on the display.

The modified procedure works OK once I double the thickness of axes,
etc. by adding the following to the plot command:

```
psym=-6, symsize=2, thick=2, xthick=2, ythick=2, $
```

: code. It looks OK on my display, but perhaps I'm not that picky
: for display purposes. Now, hardcopy, that's something else. :-)

I guess I am picky - the result still looks fuzzy and a little chunky
to me. I *much* prefer PostScript fonts and would use PS but for two
things:

- Much of my work can end up both in internal memos and on our intranet web site, and it seems that GIF is the portable way to do that.

- EPS with preview doesn't show up in Word, and when I have many similar plots to put in a document I don't like to rely on filename alone.

Looks like I'll need to take the time to read your PostScript chapter and try your tools!

Thanks for the reply!

--

-- Gwyn F. Fireman

-- General Sciences Corporation / MODIS Characterization Support Team

-- Gwyn.Fireman@gsfc.nasa.gov 301-352-2118

Subject: Re: Z-buffer font quality

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 02 Apr 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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

Gwyn Fireman (fireman@mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov) writes:

> I am trying to generate plots with high-quality fonts using the
> Z-buffer. TrueType fonts of the size I would usually use for titles
> come out chunky and less readable than hardware fonts. David Fanning
> has recently claimed success with this; what am I doing wrong?

Well, I usually write to the Z-buffer at twice the resolution that I want to see on the display. For example, here is your modified code. It looks OK on my display, but perhaps I'm not that picky for display purposes. Now, hardcopy, that's something else. :-)

PRO TEST

thisDevice = !D.Name

set_plot, 'Z' ; open gif

!p.font = 1 ; set font

Device, Set_Font='Times', /TT_Font, Set_Resolution=[800, 800]

plot, indgen(5), title = 'Main Plot Title', \$

 xtitle = 'X-Axis Title', ytitle = 'Y-Axis Title', \$

 color = 0, background = 255, charsize=2.0 ; Twice normal size characters

xyouts, 0.5, 3, 'Annotation', color=0, size=4

image = tvrd() ; capture plot from Z-buffer

set_plot, thisDevice

window, 0, xsize=400, ysize=400

tv, Rebin(image, 400, 400) ; display image

END

Cheers,

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Z-buffer font quality

Posted by [DMottershead](#) on Wed, 07 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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

Have a look at <http://marlin.mhl.nsw.gov.au/motohtm/idl.html>

In article <7e37ig\$vv@post.gsfc.nasa.gov>,

fireman@mcst.gsfc.nasa.gov (Gwyn Fireman) wrote:

> David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) wrote:

> : Well, I usually write to the Z-buffer at twice the resolution that

> : I want to see on the display.

>

> The modified procedure works OK once I double the thickness of axes,

> etc. by adding the following to the plot command:

>

> psym=-6, symsize=2, thick=2, xthick=2, ythick=2, \$

>

> : code. It looks OK on my display, but perhaps I'm not that picky

> : for display purposes. Now, hardcopy, that's something else. :-)

>

> I guess I am picky - the result still looks fuzzy and a little chunky

> to me. I *much* prefer PostScript fonts and would use PS but for two

> things:

>

> - Much of my work can end up both in internal memos and on our intranet

> web site, and it seems that GIF is the portable way to do that.

>

> - EPS with preview doesn't show up in Word, and when I have many similar

> plots to put in a document I don't like to rely on filename alone.

>

> Looks like I'll need to take the time to read your PostScript chapter

> and try your tools!

>

> Thanks for the reply!

>

> --

> -- Gwyn F. Fireman

> -- General Sciences Corporation / MODIS Characterization Support Team
> -- Gwyn.Fireman@gsfc.nasa.gov 301-352-2118
>

-----== Posted via Deja News, The Discussion Network ==-----
<http://www.dejanews.com/> Search, Read, Discuss, or Start Your Own
