
HPGL

By: Christopher Lane (Lane@Sumex-Aim.Stanford.Edu)

HPGL defines a Lisp *image stream* type that generates output for plotters (and other devices) which use the *Hewlett-Packard Graphics Language*. The module does not define any user functions, the HPGL streams are accessed via OPENIMAGESTREAM and the hardcopy functions.

PLOTTERS

Some plotters which use HPGL either as their primary language or as an optional extra:

Hewlett-Packard (most)	Epson America HI-80 (option)
Facit 4551	Western Graphtec MP1000 and FP5301 (option)
Gould Color-writer 6120 and 6320	Houston Instrument DMP-29 (option)
Taxan 710	Nicolet Zeta 8 (option)
IBM 7371	
Roland DYPX-880 and 980	(source: <i>PC</i> , Volume 4, Number 26, December 1984)

The file extensions HPGL and PLOT are recognized by the system as plotter output file types.

OPTIONS

The driver accepts the following in the OPTIONS argument to OPENIMAGESTREAM:

SCALE	Image scaling; value should be a POSITION record which indicates where the second scaling point should be placed (the initial scaling point is at 0,0). By default, uses (SCREENWIDTH . SCREENHEIGHT).
ROTATE	Paper rotation; value should be 0 or 90, defaults to <i>landscape</i> plotting (0).
PAPER	Paper size; value is a small integer, the HP 7475A accepts 3 (A3) or 4 (A4).
TERMINATOR	Label terminator character; value should be a character, the default is '^A'.
VELOCITY	Pen velocity; plotter specific.

IMPLEMENTATION

The driver was implemented using an HP 7475A plotter but the plotter output conforms to the more restrictive HP 9872 syntax to be more widely applicable. The driver uses the following variables which may need adjustment for other types of plotters:

HPGL.FONTS	An ALST of font names and (small integer) plotter font numbers.
HPGL.OPTIONS	An ALST of plotter specific options that can be passed to OPENIMAGESTREAM and the corresponding HPGL command to print.
HPGL.DASHING	An ALST of HPGL line types (small integers) and dashing lists.
HPGL.FONT.EXPANSIONS	An ALST of font face expansions (REGULAR, COMPRESSED and EXPANDED) and the relative scale of each.
HPGL.TERMINATOR	The default end of instruction terminator character, initially ';'.

HPGL.SEPARATOR	The default parameter separator character, initially ','.
HPGL.TEXT.TERMINATOR	The default end of label terminator character, initially '^A'.
HPGL.CHORD.ANGLE	The chord angle used by the circle and arc instructions. Defaults to NIL which causes the plotter's default to be used.
HPGL.PATTERN.LENGTH	The default pattern length for the hardware dashing. Defaults to NIL which causes the plotter's default to be used.
COLORNAMES	System variable used to convert between RGB triples and pen numbers. The order of entries affects the pen number to color correspondences.

DASHING

To minimize the complexity of the driver and maximize the speed of plotting, for operations other than DRAWLINE, the driver only uses the built-in dashing types of the plotter. The correspondences between the dashing style and HPGL line type number are kept in the HPGL.DASHING variable which can be modified or extended for plotters with different dashing styles than those displayed below:

1	(1 49)
2	—	—	—	—	—	(25)
3	—	—	—	—	—	(35 15)
4	—	.	—	.	—	(39 5 1 5)
5	—	-	—	-	—	(35 5 5 5)
6	—	-	-	—	-	(25 5 5 5 5)
	—					NIL

If the driver is loaded after SKETCH, the dashing types are added to SKETCH's dashing menu .