PSTricks

pst2pdf

Running a PSTricks document with pdflatex and pst-exa; v.1.06

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Contents

`pst2pdf` is a Perl script for running a PSTricks document in a last run with pdflatex. `pst-exa` is a package that supports the printing of code and output of PSTricks examples when running in pdf mode.

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Table 1: Possible optional arguments for the Perl script `pst2pdf`

name	*values*	*default*	*description*
`-imageDir`	literal	`imgages/`	the directory for the created images
`-Iext`	literal	`.pdf`	the extension for `\includegraphics`, can be empty, then `\includegraphics` decides which image is used.
`-DPI`	integer	`75`	the dots per inch for a created png file, if possible
`-Iscale`	real	`1`	the value for the option `scale` in `\includegraphics`. Important when using a greater dpi value.
`-tempDir`	literal	`.`	the temporary directory for the temp files
`-verbose`	boolean	`1`	for a long `pst2pdf` log
`-clear`	boolean	`0`	delete all temporary files
`-noImages`	boolean	`0`	create no images, build only the pdf with the alread existing images

1 Introduction

`PSTricks` as `PostScript` -related package uses the programming language `PostScript` for internal calculations. This is an important adavantage, because floating point arithmetic is no problem. Nearly all mathematical calculation can be done when running the DVI-file with Ghostscript. However, creating a PDFfile in a direct way with `pdflatex` is not possible. `pdflatex` cannot understand the `PostScript` related stuff. Instead of running `pdflatex` one can use the Perl script `pdf2eps`, it extracts all `PSTricks` -related code into single documents with the same preamble as the original main document. Then the script runs this document, clips all whitespace arounf the image and creates a `.pdf`, `.eps`, and `.png` image of the `PSTricks` related code. In a last run which is the `pdflatex` the `PSTricks` code in the main dcouemnt is replaced by the created images.

2 Running the Perl script

The genral syntax for the Perl script is simple

`pst2pdf` *file* `.tex` `options`

The options listed in Table 1 refer only to the script and not the LaTeX file.

After the `pst2pdf` run there exists a pdf file called `\jobname-pdf.pdf`. And when not using the `-clear` option also the corresponding TeX file `\jobname-pdf.tex`. The preamble of the document should contain all code which is important to the `PSTricks` code.

3 `PSTricks` code

The per scripts scans the files for `pspicture` and `postscript` environments, which are then taken with its contents from the main file to create stand alone documents with

Table 2: Possible optional arguments for the Perl script pst2pdf

name	*values*	*default*	*description*
pos	l,r,b,t	l	position of the image, maybe left, right, bottom ot top of the code.
halign	l,r,c	c	the horizontal alignment of the image.
valign	l,r,c	c	the vertical alignment of the image.
frame	see lst		option is passed to \lstinputlisting from the package listings.
width	length	0.5\linewidth	the width of the example box.
sep	length	1em	separation between image and code.

the same preamble as the main document. The pspicture environment can be nested, the postscript one not! But it can contain an environment pspicture, but not vice versa. The postscript environment should always be used, when there is some code before a pspicture environment or for some code which is not inside of a pspicture environment.

4 The package pst-exa

The package pst-exa was created to realize examples with printed code and output side by side or on top of each other. The package looks in the image directory for the source code of the examples and inserts only the code between the environment document, which is the sequence \begin{document} ... \end{document}.

The package provides the environment PSTexample with the optional arguments listed in Table 2.

5 Examples

The package contains some example files for uning the script without and with the package pst-exa.

test1.tex running pst2pdf test1. The test file contains a jpg-image, which is only possible with pdflatex.

test2.tex same as test1, but with using pst-exa and example–code combination.

test3.tex another example

6 List of all optional arguments for pst-exa

Key	Type	Default
pos	ordinary	l
halign	ordinary	c
valign	ordinary	c
frame	ordinary	
width	ordinary	0.5\linewidth
sep	ordinary	1em

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