Pamstack User Manual

pamstack

Updated: 10 January 2006
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NAME

pamstack - stack planes of multiple PAM images into one PAM image

SYNOPSIS

pamstack [**-tupletype** *tupletype*] [*inputfilespec* ...]

All options may be abbreviated to the shortest unique prefix. You may use two hyphens instead of one. You may separate an option from its value with a space instead of **=**.

DESCRIPTION

This program is part of Netpbm.

pamstack reads multiple PAM or PNM images as input and produces a PAM image as output, consisting of all the planes (channels) of the inputs, stacked in the order specified.

The output is the same dimensions as the inputs, except that the depth is the sum of the depths of the inputs. It has the same maxval. **pamstack** fails if the inputs are not all the same width, height, and maxval. The tuple type is a null string unless you specify the **-tupletype** option.

pamstack works with multi-image streams. It stacks the 1st image in all the streams into one output image (the first one in the output stream), then stacks the 2nd image in all the streams into the 2nd image in the output stream, and so on, until one of the streams runs dry. It's like a matrix operation.

Before Netpbm 10.32 (February 2006), **pamstack** ignored all but the first image in each input stream.

pamchannel does the opposite of **pamstack**: It extracts individual planes from a single PAM.

Use pamtopnm to convert a suitable PAM image to a more traditional PNM (PBM, PGM, or PPM) image. (But there's no need to do that if you're going to feed it to a modern Netpbm program -- they all take suitable PAM input directly).

One example of using **pamstack** is that some Netpbm programs accept as input a PAM that represents graphic image with transparency information. Taking a color image for example, this would be a PAM with tuple type "RGB_ALPHA". In Netpbm, such images were traditionally represented as two images - a PPM for the color and a PGM for the transparency. To convert a PPM/PGM pair into PAM(RGB_ALPHA) input that newer programs require, do something like this:

```
$ pamstack -tupletype=RGB_ALPHA myimage.ppm myalpha.pgm |       pamtouil >myimage.uil
```

OPTIONS

-tupletype *tupletype*This specifies the tuple type name to be recorded in the output. You may use any string up to 255 characters. Some programs recognize some names. If you omit this option, the default tuple type name is null.

SEE ALSO

pam pamchannel

HISTORY

pamstack was new in Netpbm 10.0 (June 2002).

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