Ppmlabel User Manual

ppmlabel

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NAME

ppmlabel - add text to a PPM image

SYNOPSIS

ppmlabel [**-angle** *angle*] [**-background** { **transparent** | *color* }] [**-color** *color*] [**-file** *filename*] [**-size** *text-size*] [**-text** *text_string*] [**-x** *column*] [**-y** *row*] [*ppmfile*]

EXAMPLE

ppmlabel -x 50 -y 50 -text hello -angle -30 -text there testimg.ppm

DESCRIPTION

This program is part of Netpbm.

ppmlabel uses the text drawing facilities of **libnetpbm**'s "ppmd" component to add text to a PBM image. You control the location, size, baseline angle, color of the text, and background color (if any) with command line arguments. You can specify the text on the command line or supply it in files.

You can add any number of separate labels in a single invocation of **ppmlabel**, limited only by any restrictions your environment has on the number and size of program arguments (e.g. a shell's command size limit).

If you don't specify *ppmfile*, **ppmlabel** reads its input PPM image from Standard Input.

The output image goes to Standard Output.

A more sophisticated way to add a label to an image is to use **pbmtext** or **pbmtextps** to create an image of the text, then **pamcomp** to overlay it onto the base image.

Another more general program is **ppmdraw**. It is slightly harder to use for simple labelling.

OPTIONS

The arguments on the **ppmlabel** command line are not options in the strict sense; they are commands which control the placement and appearance of the text being added to the input image. They are executed left to right, and any number of arguments may appear.

You can abbreviate any option to its shortest unique prefix.

-angle *angle*This option sets the angle of the baseline of subsequent text. *angle* is an integral number of degrees, measured counterclockwise from the row axis of the image.

-background { **transparent** | *color* }If the argument is **transparent**, **ppmlabel** draws the text over the existing pixels in the image. If you specify a *color* (see the **-color** option below for information on how to specify colors), **ppmlabel** generates background rectangles enclosing subsequent text, and those rectangles are filled with that color.

-color *color*This option sets the color for subsequent text.

Specify the color (*color*) as described for the argument of the **ppm_parsecolor()** library routine.

-colour is an acceptable alternate spelling.

-file *filename*This option causes **ppmlabel** to read lines of text from the file named *filename* and draw it on successive lines.

-size *textsize*This option sets the height of the tallest characters above the baseline to *textsize* pixels.

-text *text_string*This option causes **ppmlabel** to draw the specified text string. It advances the location for subsequent text down 1.75 times the current *textsize*. That lets you draw multiple lines of text in a reasonable manner without specifying the position of each line.

Note that if you invoke **ppmlabel** via a shell command and your text string contains spaces, you'll have to quote it so the shell treats the whole string as a single token. E.g.

```
$ ppmlabel -text "this is my text" baseimage.ppm >annotatedimage.ppm
```

-x *column*This option sets the pixel column at which subsequent text will be left justified. Depending on the shape of the first character, the actual text may begin a few pixels to the right of this point.

-y *row*This option sets the pixel row which will form the baseline of subsequent text. Characters with descenders, such as "y," will extend below this line.

LIMITATIONS

Text strings are restricted to 7 bit ASCII. The text font used by **ppmlabel** doesn't include definitions for 8 bit ISO 8859/1 characters.

When drawing multiple lines of text with a non-transparent background, it should probably fill the space between the lines with the background color. This is tricky to get right when the text is rotated to a non-orthogonal angle.

SEE ALSO

ppmmake, **ppmdraw**, **pbmtext**, **pbmtextps**, **pamcomp**, **ppm**

AUTHOR

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WWW home page: http://www.fourmilab.ch/

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