

Re: truetype fonts in x11, wrong metrics?

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2007-04/msg04765.html>

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 - *Date:* Mon, 30 Apr 2007 10:13:23 +0100
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On Mon, 30 Apr 2007 09:38:22 +0200

"BALLABIO GERARDO" <GERARDO.BALLABIO@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Hi all,

I've recently switched from Sarge to Etch (I've decided to do a reinstall, not an upgrade, because I also wanted to repartition the hard disk) and in the last few days I've been restoring my customizations.

I've run into a problem with fonts. In Sarge I had configured Emacs to use the same font as the Gnome Terminal, and I want to do the same thing in Etch. The font family Gnome is using is "DejaVu" (package `ttf-dejavu`). As this is a TrueType font, it isn't immediately available from Emacs: it has to be registered first as an X11 font. I had been able to do that in Sarge by following directions from this page: http://www.paulandlesley.org/linux/xfree4_tt.html (specifically, section 4.2) and tried to do the same in Etch. Basically the procedure is: 1. go to the directory where the TrueType fonts are stored (that is `/usr/share/fonts/truetype/ttf-dejavu`)
2. run `ttmkfdir` (creates `fonts.scale`)
3. run `mkfontdir` (creates `fonts.dir`)
4. in `/etc/X11/xorg.conf` add the following line to Section "Files":
`FontPath /usr/share/fonts/truetype/ttf-dejavu`
5. restart the X server
(of course must be done as root)

The `x-ttcidfont-conf` package takes care of the registration of truetype fonts for you.

So this worked in Etch too: after the procedure, `xlsfonts | grep dejavu` shows quite a lot of fonts. The one I want seems to be `"-misc-dejavu sans mono-medium-r-normal--15-150-75-75-m-0-iso10646-1"` (in the Gnome font panel it's listed as "Monospace, 12 pt"). But strangely, when I run Emacs with this font, the text window isn't dimensioned correctly: it should be 80 characters wide, but only 72

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fit within. There's also some extra spacing between lines. See attached screenshot: the Gnome Terminal window shows what it should look like.

Are you sure that the screen width is not an Emacs setting, rather than a font issue? What width do you get if you switch to a non-truetype font?

I guess that Emacs doesn't get the font metrics correctly. I don't know which I should blame — the font files, Emacs or X-Windows. Anyway, does anyone know what I could do to fix this?

From your screenshot, I see that Emacs (or is it xemacs?) is a GTK1 application. gnome-terminal is a GTK2 application. The former gets its idea of screen resolution directly from the X server, whereas the latter uses the X resource database. Compare the output of the following two commands:

```
xdpyinfo | grep resol  
xrdp -q | grep dpi
```

Are the DPI values different?

Please Cc: me, I'm not subscribed.

Thanks everybody
Gerardo

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Liam