Instructions for using the DetermineImageSize experiment:

This experiment is quite simple and easy to use. You simply need to do two things:

1) Put all your image files in a folder called "Resources", and place that folder in the same location as the Hout_DetermineImageSize ES file.

2) Change the values in the ImageList List object to reflect your stimuli. In the "ImageName" column, place the names of each of your stimuli, and ensure that the Weight value for those rows are set to 1. Second, set the maxWidth and maxHeight columns to whatever the maximum dimensions are that you anticipate.

The reason for doing this second part is that the experiment takes quite a long time to execute. Essentially, for each image, it starts at the top-left corner of the screen and assesses the color of each pixel. Once it reaches a pixel that matches the background color, it concludes that it has reached the border of the image itself, and stores that value. If the maxWidth or maxHeight parameters are very high, it will search too many pixels, lengthening the time it takes to run.

Output: The output you get from this experiment is a simple, tab-delimited text file. For each line it gives you, you will see the filename of the image, the width, and the height (both in pixels).

A disclaimer on accuracy: The algorithm used in this experiment is not perfect. Essentially, the program relies on the fact that there will be no color matches between your image and the background of the canvas object. If there are matching RGB values, the algorithm will inaccurately conclude that the edge of the image has been reached, when it fact that determination is premature. That being said, I would recommend changing the color of the canvas object to one that is not anticipated in any of your images. You can do this via the SetImage Inline object. There is a "NOTE" pointing you to the correct location. You can use color names (e.g., "red"), or RGB values (e.g., "100, 50, 30").

A general disclaimer: I feel as if I should give a disclaimer here. The software, as it is free, is just my way of giving back to the Psychology community. I cannot assume liability for any problems that a user encounters with the E-Prime files, text files, etc. I imagine this is assumed from the outset (and I anticipate no problems whatsoever), but of course, I need to cover myself.

Finally, please note that there is always a possibility of bugs, etc. If you have any problems with the software, or if you are having difficulty adjusting it to your future needs, please feel free to contact me. I am quite willing to help anyone get the most out of this software. I hope you find it useful and fun. I also encourage you to visit my website periodically; I will have additional software and macros posted in the future, on the Software page of my site.

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