

**DrawStudio**

<b>COLLABORATORS</b>
----------------------

	<i>TITLE :</i> DrawStudio	
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>
WRITTEN BY		April 16, 2022
		<i>SIGNATURE</i>

<b>REVISION HISTORY</b>
-------------------------

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>DrawStudio</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	DrawStudio Miscellaneous ARexx scripts documentation . . . . .	1
1.2	Contents . . . . .	1
1.3	Brief description of the scripts . . . . .	2
1.4	Distribution . . . . .	3
1.5	And finally... . . . .	3

## Chapter 1

# DrawStudio

### 1.1 DrawStudio Miscellaneous ARexx scripts documentation

DrawStudio Miscellaneous ARexx scripts documentation

Contents

- What's inside

Brief description

- How to do it

Distribution

- Spreading it about

And finally...

- How to contact me

Note: If you would like to print this entire document out, I can recommend a program called AG2Txt by Jason R. Hulance which does a great job of converting AmigaGuide documents to text files. It is found in the text/hyper (!?) directory of Aminet.

Written by Andrew Elia (March 1997)

### 1.2 Contents

This archive should contain the following files:

Flash.dsrx	- Script to create a flash effect
FlashDemo.IFF	- Demo picture for flash effect
FlashDemo.IFF.info	- Flash effect demo picture's icon
Graph.dsrx	- Script to create a bar chart
GraphDemo.IFF	- Demo picture for bar chart script
GraphDemo.IFF.info	- Bar chart demo picture's icon
Pie.dsrx	- Script to create a pie chart
PieDemo.IFF	- Demo picture for pie chart script

PieDemo.IFF.info - Pie chart demo picture's icon  
Polygon.dsrx - Script to create a regular polygon  
PolygonDemo.IFF - Demo picture for polygon script  
PolygonDemo.IFF.info - Polygon demo picture's icon  
DSMiscRexx.Guide - This file  
DSMiscRexx.Guide.info - This file's icon

If for any reason it doesn't, this program can be downloaded from the Aminet (or obtained from an Aminet CD) in the util/rexx directory as DSMiscRexx.lha.

### 1.3 Brief description of the scripts

The scripts are easily installed by simply selecting "All Files" from the "Show" sub-menu in the "Window" menu on Workbench with the window containing this document selected. Just drag all the files ending in .dsrx over to the "Rexx" drawer in your DrawStudio folder or disc. It's that easy! If, however you are already running DrawStudio, you'll have to wait until the next time you load the program before you can use the scripts.

IMPORTANT! Some of these scripts require rexxmathlib.library (available from Aminet sites at util/rexx/RexxMathLib.lha or on Aminet CD 16).

Before you read about the scripts, why not have a quick peek at the demo pictures I have included along with the scripts ? If English isn't your first language, then you might find the pictures a little more helpful. Anyway, this is what they do...

- \* Graph - As the name suggests, a little script that allows you to plot a bar graph from a set of values. You can set various options such as the scale used for the Y-axis, the length of ticks, the inter-bar gap among other things. You are pretty much free to plot as much data as you wish, as there isn't much in the way of restrictions from DrawStudio or ARexx.
- \* Polygon - OK, OK, so there are already scripts for drawing various types of polygon provided with the program, but this one is different. Honest, guv. Whereas the scripts that come with DrawStudio only let you do triangles, pentagons, hexagons, septagons, and octagons, this script gives you the ability to create ANY regular polygon you like! Dodecagon anyone ? Actually, due to the nature of ARexx message passing, there is a practical limit of about 42 sides. I say "about" because it's related to the length of text that passes between the script and DrawStudio. So, if there are plenty of round numbers in that particular object, it'll be able to squeeze more in. Having said that, do you REALLY need a tetradiogon (if that's what you call it) ? I can't find any workarounds for this "problem", so I'd be interested to hear if there is any way of passing longer strings to DrawStudio.
- \* Flash - This creates a little star-like flash object not unlike those seen in the tackier of supermarkets. However, like many other things in DrawStudio, it's a little more flexible than that. One of the example images demonstrates how, with

the aid of the Duplicate tool, you can create a pretty flower. Hmm. Like the polygon script, though this does have a limit to the number of verticies you can have. You can get away with about 83 in this case.

- \* Pie - This is a bit of a naff attempt at creating pie charts. Due to my severe lack of knowledge in all things mathematical, I'm not particularly familiar with Bezier curves, and so the slices tend to look a bit crappy. However, you can still do cool things like picking up individual slices and moving them elsewhere.

If you're quite handy with ARexx, you'll find that I've commented the code as fully as I can so that it'll be easier for you to figure out what's going on and tweak it if necessary.

## 1.4 Distribution

As with all the software I write, these scripts are FREeware. You can distribute this archive where you like, provided the archive remains complete and unmodified. You are also free to use these scripts as the basis of any scripts of your own. If they're for DrawStudio, I would appreciate being sent a copy of whatever you create, although this is by no means essential.

## 1.5 And finally...

My thanks go to Thomas Richter for pointing me in the right direction as far as finding an appropriate library for handling trigonometric functions from ARexx, namely "RexxMathLib". The fact that he is also the author of this library obviously had nothing to do with it!

Greets go to all the usual people, but with a special mention to the authors of DrawStudio (Graham and Andy Dean) for creating such an easy to use and powerful package, and of course to Larry Hickmott for providing an exemplary service to his customers.

After having used these scripts for some time, I'm sure you'll agree that there's plenty missing from them. I acknowledge these omissions, but unfortunately for the next few months at least, I really don't have the time to work on them. I therefore thought it best to let everyone get at least some limited use from them until I have the chance to work on them a little more. Here are some things I'd like to add:

- \* a GUI. There's a nice little program called "VARexx" on the Aminet which does a fine job of allowing you to use GUIs created in GadToolsBox to form front-ends for ARexx scripts. I'd probably use something like this (unless there is a better one available).
- \* For the bar and pie graph scripts, a link to TurboCalc would probably be nice (ie. select a region, and then get the script to draw the chart in DrawStudio). Having said that, the latest versions of

FinalCalc and TurboCalc already export in EPS which is great for printing (but potentially also make this sort of addition obsolete). M\$ Word STILL can't export graphs without using the clipboard and making them look crappy, by the way. That's one up for us! The alternative is to allow reading data in from a file.

- \* Find out something about Bezier curves that would make the pie charts actually LOOK like pie charts!

...and if you have any further suggestions, get in contact with me, although be prepared to wait a few months for them to be implemented (assuming that you've suggested something sensible or possible).

If you feel the urge to contact me, my E-Mail address is: [odin@dcs.qmw.ac.uk](mailto:odin@dcs.qmw.ac.uk), For any non-netsurfers, I can be snail-mailed at 178 Carterhatch Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN3 5LY, England.

See you in the next update!

---