
Subject: width of xyouts?

Posted by [eddie haskell](#) on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Hello all,

I am trying to use the width keyword of xyouts to determine when a text line extends past a boundry so that I can parse the line into smaller pieces.

I have been obtaining the width of the text string by first calling xyouts with a charsize of -1 to suppress printing. i.e.,

```
xyouts,0,0,charsize=-1,width=width,'whatever'
```

This works well until I try and use postscript fonts. Whenever I set !p.font=0 the above xyouts call, instead of suppressing the text, visibly writes the text upside down on the page.

If I try:

```
!p.font=-1
xyouts,0,0,charsize=-1,width=width,'whatever'
!p.font=0
```

I end up with a different value for width that I would get just using !p.font=0. I also get different values when using the Z buffer so I think I have to stay in the postscript device.

I could just call the xyouts with a position that will never be seen on the page but that adds to the size of the postscript file whereas the suppressed xyouts call does not. The same applies for writing the text in the background colour.

So my question is: Is there a way to obtain the width of a text string using postscript fonts without adding to the size of the postscript file?

Cheers,
eddie

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