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Subject: Re: String length when FONT=1  
Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Thu, 31 Jan 2002 21:20:25 GMT  
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Paul van Delst wrote:

>  
> Hey there,  
>  
> Anyone know how to determine string length in normalised units when you're using truetype  
> fonts?  
>  
> Currently I have:  
>  
> ch\_size = CONVERT\_COORD( !D.X\_CH\_SIZE, !D.Y\_CH\_SIZE, /DEVICE, /TO\_NORMAL )  
> x\_ch\_size = ch\_size[ 0 ] \* charsize  
> x\_length = STRLEN( my\_string ) \* x\_ch\_size )  
>  
> which works great for the regular on-screen hershey type of fonts, but not for proportional  
> fonts.  
>  
> any ideas? what I want to do is blank out the plot behind the text, e.g. like for legends etc.  
>  
> paulv

Hiya Paul,

Does the Width keyword to XYOUTS not help? e.g. :-

XYOUTS, x, y, string, WIDTH=thisWidth, CHARSIZE=-1

Charsize of -1 suppresses printing to the window, and the variable  
thisWidth returns the width of the string in normalized coordinates.

Andrew

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