
Subject: Re: String length when FONT=1

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Fri, 01 Feb 2002 19:32:47 GMT

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Paul van Delst wrote:

>

> Andrew Cool wrote:

>>

>> 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.

>

> Hmm...this does not seem to work as advertised on my system.

>

> IDL> print, !version

> { x86 linux unix 5.4.1 Jan 16 2001 32 32 }

>

> The following is what I get for the string lengths via the XYOUTS with font=1:

>

> Level ppmv 0.0484790

> ppmv->cd->corr.ppmv 0.0991605

> corr-nocorr ppmv 0.0736377

> corr-interp ppmv 0.0700989

```
> nocorr-interp ppmv 0.0809504
>
> oh so incorrect.
```

Aha! Must scale the result by whatever the charsize value is for the ACTUAL string. Cool. Still
- it's a bit silly to have to use xyouts twice.... or maybe not.

paulv

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Paul van Delst Religious and cultural
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP purity is a fundamentalist
Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274 fantasy
Fax:(301)763-8545 V.S.Naipaul
