
Subject: Re: String length when FONT=1

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Fri, 01 Feb 2002 19:27:29 GMT

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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.

BTW, your code was downloaded uuencoded so I never saw it.

paulv

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