
Subject: Re: Color Fonts?!?!?

Posted by [Ken Mankoff](#) on Wed, 17 Apr 2002 20:23:38 GMT

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On Wed, 17 Apr 2002, David Fanning wrote:

> Ken Mankoff (mankoff@I.HATE.SPAM.cs.colorado.edu) writes:

>

>> The steps to make it automatic are just that the user passes in the
>> title and the substring, and the program splits the title on the
>> substring, and then makes the 3 XYOUTS with the dynamically generated
>> substrings.

>

> Well, sorta. Assuming there are three words, you don't
> necessarily want to have them centered on the plot, etc., etc.

>

> But nice work, though. It really was easier than I thought it would
> be to come up with a one-off. That's not too bad if you need it for
> a journal article. And if you had a well-enough defined environment,
> you could even make it semi-automatic with minimal effort.

I agree that this currently works best for a simple hard-coded journal-article type plot, but I think that this is still even easier than you think it is. I do believe this could be a full-featured program that handles 95% of your average PLOT and SURFACE calls, with far less work than Hercules, Atlas, or Samson ever did. But no, I will not write it as I have no need for this, outside of a few simple hard-coded journal-article type plots. :)

1) There is no limitation of 3. You can pass in an array of substrings, and an optional associated array of colors you want them, and break the title into n substrings. The only requirement here is that each substring matches only one regexp. But most titles do not repeat words, so this should work.

2) You can center XYOUTS perfectly via this method: Write once offscreen ("XYOUTS, 10, 10, /norm, title, width=w") to get the length of the entire string (or write twice on-screen, the 2nd time in the background color to erase it). Knowing the length of the string, and !position, and CONVERT_COORD will allow you to make an XYOUTS indistinguishable from an "XTITLE=" keyword to plot

3) If you then use CONVERT_COORD to work in data coordinates, I think you could even get colors working for words in a 3D PLOT or SURFACE, where your axes are skewed, using /T3D with XYOUTS.

-k.

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