Subject: Re: Special Characters in IDL Posted by Liam E. Gumley on Fri, 30 May 2003 17:14:48 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message news:MPG.19413b86cef0dbd7989bb9@news.frii.com...

- > Have you ever tried to use special characters in IDL (I'm
- > thinking specifically of the less-than-or-equal sign) *and*
- > get them to print in PostScript?

>

- > That was just a bit more complicated than I wanted it
- > to be. (How come there is no reference to "unicode" in
- > the IDL documentation!?) Anyway, because I don't want to
- > go through that again, I wrote up a little article about
- > it. You can find it in the usual place.

An alternative for plotting mathematical symbols is TeXtoIDL by Matthew Craig:

http://physweb.mnstate.edu/mcraig/TeXtoIDL/

For example, to plot a "less than or equal to" symbol:

IDL> xyouts, 0.5, 0.0, textoidl('\leg'), /normal

It works identically for vector and PostScript fonts. To view the symbols supported by TeXtoIDL:

IDL> showtex

More details are on pages 255-257 of my book (see link below).

Cheers, Liam. Practical IDL Programming http://www.gumley.com/