
Subject: Re: Translate characters/string size to data/normal coordinates?

Posted by [andrew.cool](#) on Mon, 02 Aug 2004 00:41:45 GMT

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ellips@yahoo.com (J.K.) wrote in message

news:<90c173a.0407290707.65405a8@posting.google.com>...

> Is there any way to know the position of characters written to a
> device with xyouts? I'd like to do an xyouts but clear anything
> drawn underneath the text first with a polyfill.
>
> I can do it by trial and error but I could generalize it if I could
> translate characters to width and height in data or normal coordinates.
> I suppose this would change with !p.charsize/charsize/font selection.
>
> Any ideas?
>
> Thanks,
> John K.

Hi John,

Try using a negative value with the CHARSIZE keyword, which will

1. Not write anything to the screen, and
2. Return in the Width keyword the width of the string in normalised coordinates.

e.g. :-

```
string = 'This is a normal string'  
XYOUTS, x, y, string, WIDTH=thisWidth, CHARSIZE=-1
```

Of course, Charsize = -2 gives you a string twice as wide.

See <http://www.dfanning.com/tips/stringsize.html> for more info.

Cheers,

Andrew Cool
DSTO, Adelaide, South Australia
