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

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sun, 01 Aug 2004 16:33:49 GMT

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J.K. wrote:

- > 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.

You could use the widths keyword of xyouts. First write the word outside of the plot.

You could also have a look in our xyouts\_box routine

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/xyouts\\_box\\_dbase.pro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/xyouts_box_dbase.pro.html)

This routine did already the job you described.

```
tek_color
PLOT, findgen(10)
x=RANDOMU(1, 1000)*10 & y=randomu(2, 1000)*10
OPLOT, x,y, psym=1
OPLOT, findgen(10)-0.5 & oplot, findgen(10)-0.6
xyouts_box, 1, 1, 'test 11', /DATA $
      , textcolor=2, boxcolor= 3 $
      , charsize=3
```

Please have a look for further routines into

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

cheers

Reimar

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