Subject: Re: Sun Symbol
Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 26 Oct 2004 14:55:16 GMT

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Joel Vernet writes:

> This is just a shame that there is no option for a 'user font' with True
> Type that would be accessible with !20 like (it should do) in
> postscript. That forces me to replace the default Courier font by the
> Marvosym one to later be able to access it easily.

Just to expand a bit on what Joel means here. In PostScript
you can, in theory, add another PostScript font that you
can access by means of a !Number syntax. For example,
if I had a PostScript font named "Fanning", I could
go into the PostScript device and set it up so that !4
gave me the Fanning font:

    Device, Set_Font='fanning', Font_Index=4
    Plot, data, Title='This is normal and !4this is fanning!X'

Thus, I could mix font types in a single string, an
essential feature when you are writing papers for
journal publication. (All those pesky Greek symbols,
for example.)

Alas, the FONT_INDEX keyword does not apply to True-Type
fonts. So, the only way to add a True-Type font to IDL
that we have found, is to fake IDL out and substitute
one of our font files for one of theirs in their fonts/tt
directory. Actually, by modifying the ttfont.map file.

It is an ugly solution, to be sure, but we do get
a *great* looking sun symbol (and moon symbols, etc.). :-)

Cheers,

David

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