
Subject: Re: Sun Symbol

Posted by [Ben Panter](#) on Mon, 25 Oct 2004 15:51:01 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

- > I'm asked about every 10 minutes around here how to
- > get a good looking sun symbol on IDL plots. A sun
- > symbol is a circle with a dot in the center of it.
- > Usually you subscript a capital M with it, and it
- > represents the mass of the sun, a standard astronomical
- > unit.

I always use `M!!!9n!x!n` which seems to work pretty well [in postscript output of course... and onscreen it looks ok to me with simplex fonts]

I find that <http://astron.berkeley.edu/~sdawson/idlfonts.html> is a really useful source for looking up what's what with these sort of things.

- > Or, how is the world does LaTeX do it? They seem
- > to get it right, but we can't seem to work it out as
- > nicely.

`M_\odot` - not sure if this works with textoidl though

Ben

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