
Subject: Re: writing to 2 "windows" in idl?

Posted by [steinhh](#) on Thu, 18 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <CAS.96Jan17130850@revelle.cdc.noaa.gov>, cas@revelle.cdc.noaa.gov (Cathy Smith) writes:

|>

|> Hi- I'd like to write out character strings to a gif imagee and determine
|> their lengths (in pixels). I can do this using xyouts and this works for
|> most of what I want to do. However, now I would like to find the length
|> of a character string BEFORE I write it out. I tried writing out
|> in the same color as my image to get the returned length and then writing
|> it out again in the color I want. This works except that I cover up some
|> lines on my original plot that I don't want covered. Is there a way to
|> write to a "fake" device instead?

|>

You could use e.g.,

```
GXnoop = 5 ; This graphics function does no operation on the screen
device,get_graphics_function=oldgraphics ; Store
device,set_graphics_function=GXnoop ; Plot with the color that's there
```

```
device,font='-adobe-helvetica-bold-r-normal--10-100-75-75-p- 60-iso8859-1'
xyouts, x+4, y, string, /device,width=namew ,charsize=1.2,color=44
mmwidth=namew*n1
```

```
device,set_graphics_function=oldgraphics ; Put it back
```

```
xyouts, x-mmwidth-4, y, string, /device, width=namew ,charsize=1.2,color=222
```

Stein Vidar
