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Subject: Re: Sun Symbol in Postscript

Posted by [Wayne Landsman](#) on Fri, 11 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Wayne Landsman wrote:

>  
> Does anyone know how to draw the Sun symbol (a circle with a centered  
> dot) with a postscript font? This symbol is available under font 9 in  
> the vector fonts, i.e. sunsymbol = !9n. But I haven't been able to  
> find it in a postscript font, or to create it with the positioning  
> commands.

I have finally found positioning commands that give a reasonable (but not perfect) representation of the Sun symbol, as in the following function:

\*\*\*

function sunsymbol

; Returns the Sun symbol (circle with a dot in the middle)  
; as a postscript character string. This is available as a vector  
font as  
; the string '!9n' but it is not in the standard postscript set. Note  
that  
; this routine already includes subscript output positioning commands.  
; EXAMPLE:  
; To make the X-axis of a plot read M/M\_Sun  
; IDL> plot,indgen(10),xtit = 'M / M' + sunsymbol()

if (!P.FONT EQ -1) or (!D.NAME NE 'PS') then return,'!D!9n!N!X' else  
begin

;Want to use /AVANTGARDE,/BOOK which is the default font 17, but to make  
sure  
;that ISOLATIN encoding is turned off, we'll define our own font.

device,/AVANTGARDE,/BOOK,ISOLATIN=0,FONT\_INDEX = 20

return, '!20!S!DO!R!! ' + string(183b) + '!X!N'  
endelse  
end  
\*\*\*

Jack Saba pointed to me that Sun symbol is the command /odot in TeX, and so that it might be possible to use the OUTPUT keyword in DEVICE to output the same string used

by TeX (after the TeX file is converted to postscript). But I think that there is no easy way to tell IDL to use a postscript font other than the "standard 35" available fonts. Or is there???

--Wayne Landsman  
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