Subject: Re: Clipping woes with hardware fonts...
Posted by Peter Mason on Tue, 01 Jul 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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On Mon, 30 Jun 1997, Richard G. French wrote:

> I am having a problem with clipping. As I understand it, XYOUTS has
> clipping turned off by default, but setting NOCLIP=0 should turn clipping
> back on and prevent text from being written outside the plot axes. I've
> discovered that this works fine as long as you use Hershey fonts, but it
> does not work when you use hardware fonts.
<...>
> I have not seen this documented as a 'feature' and it is causing lots of
> problems with my plots. I suspect that there is a workaround using the
> !p.clip array, but I have not tried to figure it out yet. Am I alone in
> having had this problem?

I haven't tried clipping with hardware fonts before, but I have had other
problems (XOR graphics function) with them in IDL 4 and 5.   I get the
impression that people generally tend to use the Hershey fonts, and so IDL's
implementation of hardware fonts (on its various supported platforms) has, er,
never really had the benefit of our full attention.

I suspect that clipping in XYOUTS with hardware fonts just hasn't been
implemented in IDL (4 or 5).

I have had problems in plots where NOCLIP=0 sometimes didn't work as expected
(in IDL 4), and sorted them out by specifying a clip region explicitly, by
means of the CLIP= keyword - equivalent to using !P.CLIP.   (i.e., The default
clip region didn't work, sometimes.)   However, this doesn't help with XYOUTS
in the hardware font.

Peter Mason
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