Subject: Re: Special Characters in IDL
Posted by Liam E. Gumley on Fri, 30 May 2003 17:14:48 GMT

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"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.19413b86cef0dbd7989bb9@news.frii.com...
> Have you ever tried to use special characters in IDL (I'm
> thinking specifically of the less-than-or-equal sign) *and*
> get them to print in PostScript?
>
> That was just a bit more complicated than I wanted it
> to be. (How come there is no reference to "unicode" in
> the IDL documentation!?) Anyway, because I don't want to
> go through that again, I wrote up a little article about
> it. You can find it in the usual place.

An alternative for plotting mathematical symbols is TeXtoIDL by Matthew
Craig:

http://physweb.mnstate.edu/mcraig/TeXtoIDL/

For example, to plot a "less than or equal to" symbol:

IDL> xyouts, 0.5, 0.0, textoidl('\leq'), /normal

It works identically for vector and PostScript fonts. To view the symbols
supported by TeXtoIDL:

IDL> showtex

More details are on pages 255-257 of my book (see link below).

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
http://www.gumley.com/

Subject: Re: Special Characters in IDL
Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 30 May 2003 17:41:39 GMT

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Liam Gumley (Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu) writes:

> An alternative for plotting mathematical symbols is TeXtoIDL by Matthew
> Craig:
>
> http://physweb.mnstate.edu/mcraig/TeXtoIDL/

>
> For example, to plot a "less than or equal to" symbol:
>
> IDL> xyouts, 0.5, 0.0, textoidl('\leq'), /normal
>
> It works identically for vector and PostScript fonts.

This looks promising, Liam. Much easier. (Although
I had to read your book before I discovered that I
had to set the FONT keyword *both* on the graphics
command AND in the TextoIDL call!)

But why is the symbol offset to the top of the line?
I can't find any way to correct this.

Cheers,

David

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David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155