
Subject: Re: Text Formatting with TexToIDL

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 22:29:16 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,
>
> Here is a straightforward string using TexToIDL:
>
> IDL> xyouts, 0.5, 0.5, charsize=2.5, align=0.5, /normal, \$
> textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)')
> IDL> Print, textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)')
> !7k!X!D1!N (nm)
>
> Just what I want. But...I want it in object graphics:
>
> IDL> string = textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)')
> IDL> text = obj_new('idlgrtext', string, ENABLE_FORMATTING=1)
> IDL> xobjview, text
>
> NOT what I want. :-(
>
> What good is it to enable formatting if I'm going to get something
> completely different!?
>
> Any ideas?

This works:

```
IDL> s2='!M!X!D1!N (nm)'  
IDL> text = obj_new('idlgrtext', s2, ENABLE_FORMATTING=1)  
IDL> xobjview, text
```

I have similar problems with PS output in DG (i.e the difference between on screen chars and PS output when !p.font=1) but it happens rarely enough that I've never bothered to figure it out for good.

paulv

p.s. To have the character "k" correspond to lambda in the IDL font list/whatever makes no sense (to me at least).

--

Paul van Delst
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC

Subject: Re: Text Formatting with TextToIDL
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 23:21:59 GMT
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David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> writes:

```
> Folks,
>
> Here is a straightforward string using TextToIDL:
>
> IDL> xyouts, 0.5, 0.5, charsize=2.5, align=0.5, /normal, $
>   textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)')
> IDL> Print, textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)')
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> NOT what I want. :-(
>
> What good is it to enable formatting if I'm going to get something
> completely different!?
```

David, the problem is that the font sets and character encodings for the TrueType and PostScript fonts are totally different than the direct graphics Hershey fonts. textoidl() only knows about the Hershey fonts. Somebody would have to re-write a part of textoidl() to handle the new encodings.

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: Text Formatting with TextToIDL
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2006 23:29:38 GMT
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Craig Markwardt <craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> writes:

- > David, the problem is that the font sets and character encodings for
- > the TrueType and PostScript fonts are totally different than the
- > direct graphics Hershey fonts. textoidl() only knows about the
- > Hershey fonts. Somebody would have to re-write a part of textoidl()
- > to handle the new encodings.

But here's an interesting tidbit. The PS and TrueType symbol fonts are close enough that one can switch to Postscript mode and get the desired effect:

```
set_plot, 'ps'
str = textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)', font=0)
set_plot, 'x'
text = obj_new('idlgrtext', str, ENABLE_FORMATTING=1)
xobjview, text
```

Major-kludge, but it suggests that a modification to textoidl() would be fairly straightforward.

Craig

--

 Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu
 Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: Text Formatting with TextToIDL
 Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 16 Feb 2006 05:27:15 GMT
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Craig Markwardt writes:

- > But here's an interesting tidbit. The PS and TrueType symbol fonts
- > are close enough that one can switch to Postscript mode and get the
- > desired effect:
- >
- > set_plot, 'ps'
- > str = textoidl(' \lambda_{1} (nm)', font=0)
- > set_plot, 'x'
- > text = obj_new('idlgrtext', str, ENABLE_FORMATTING=1)
- > xobjview, text
- >
- > Major-kludge, but it suggests that a modification to textoidl() would
- > be fairly straightforward.

I've suggested to the person who passed this information along to me that he get in touch with Matt Craig and offer to help fix this up, but so far stone silence on the other end. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
