
Subject: Vertical text alignment in postscript
Posted by [Andy Heaps](#) on Tue, 17 Jul 2007 09:59:58 GMT
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I'm trying to align text vertically in postscript but have some extra space above where the text finishes. Using `!D.Y_CH_SIZE/2.0` as the mid-point means that the text is now not vertically aligned.

Has anyone an explanation/solution for this problem?
Attached is a small program to show the problem.

Many thanks
Andy

PRO II

```
SET_PLOT, 'ps'
DEVICE, FILE='ll.ps', XSIZE=8.27, YSIZE=11.69, $
    XOFFSET=0.5, YOFFSET=0.5, /INCHES, /COLOR
!P.COLOR=1
!P.FONT=0
!P.POSITION=[0.1,0.3,0.9,0.6]
r = [255,0]
g = [255,0]
b = [255,0]
TVLCT,r,g,b

mysize=6.0           ;Size of our text
ypix=!D.Y_CH_SIZE*mysize ;Height of text in pixels
xstart=1000          ;X start of plotting
xfinish=20000        ;X finish of plotting
ystart=5000          ;Y start of plotting

XYOUTS, xstart, ystart, CHARSIZE=mysize, 'Testing 123', /DEVICE
PLOTS, [xstart, xfinish], [ystart, ystart], /DEVICE ;Bottom of text
PLOTS, [xstart, xfinish], [ystart+ypix, ystart+ypix], /DEVICE ;Top of text

DEVICE, /CLOSE

END
```

Subject: Re: Vertical text alignment in postscript
Posted by [Andy Heaps](#) on Wed, 18 Jul 2007 13:39:41 GMT
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Many thanks for the replies - they were very useful.

The space that I was referring to is the spacing between text lines. As I don't use more than one line of text at a time this wasn't something I'd thought of.

To get a fairly decent approximation of the true height of true type fonts in postscript I used the formula:
$$ypixels = !D.Y_CH_SIZE * charsize * 0.84$$

Where ypixels is the height in pixels and charsize is size of the characters passed to the xyouts procedure.
The scaling factor of 0.84 to get the best fit changes according to the font used but 0.84 looks pretty good for Helvetica and Times.

Cheers
Andy
