
Subject: writing to 2 "windows" in idl?

Posted by [cas](#) on Wed, 17 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi- I'd like to write out character strings to a gif imagee and determine their lengths (in pixels). I can do this using xyouts and this works for most of what I want to do. However, now I would like to find the length of a character string BEFORE I write it out. I tried writing out in the same color as my image to get the returned length and then writing it out again in the color I want. This works except that I cover up some lines on my original plot that I don't want covered. Is there a way to write to a "fake" device instead?

The relevant parts of my code are:

```
tvlct,/GET,r,g,b
```

```
window, colors=223,xsize=n1,ysize=n2
```

```
etc.....
```

```
device,font='-adobe-helvetica-bold-r-normal--10-100-75-75-p- 60-iso8859-1'
```

```
xyouts, x+4, y, string, /device,width=namew ,charsize=1.2,color=44
```

```
mmwidth=namew*n1
```

```
xyouts, x-mmwidth-4, y, string, /device, width=namew ,charsize=1.2,color=222
```

thanks.

cathy smith

cas@cdc.noaa.gov

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cas@cdc.noaa.gov
