
Subject: Mask out background of xyouts annotations

Posted by [oet](#) on Tue, 22 Jun 1993 13:39:43 GMT

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To plot weather station names over a map in IDL we should mask out the background of the xyouts plot. I could not find a function which automatically masks out the background behind a xyouts plot. So I wrote the short procedure below. It does his work, but probably there may be a better way to do this.

Thanks for any input!

Thomas

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```
;
;
;+
; NAME:
; MXYOUTS
;
; PURPOSE:
;   Masks out background of xyouts plot
;
;
; CATEGORY:
;   Plotting
;
;
; CALLING SEQUENCE:
;   mxyouts, x, y, <string>, MASK_COLOR=MASK_COLOR, COLOR=COLOR, FONT=FONT
;
;
; KEYWORD PARAMETERS:
;
;   MASK_COLOR background color of xyouts plot, default is 0
;   COLOR color of xyouts plot, default is !d.n_colors -1
;
;
; RESTRICTIONS:
;
;   Currently only supports device coordinates for x and y
;   Problems with some fonts, just a first hack ....
;
```

```
;
;
; SEE ALSO:
;
;   xyouts, polyfill, GRAPHIC_KEYWORDS, device
;
; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
; Written by: Thomas.Oettli@sma.ch   11-june-1993
;
;
;
;-
```

```
PRO mxyouts, x0, y0, str, MASK_COLOR=MASK_COLOR, COLOR=COLOR, FONT=FONT
```

```
fn=FONT
DEVICE, FONT=fn
```

```
if ( NOT(KEYWORD_SET(MASK_COLOR)) ) then MASK_COLOR=0
if ( NOT(KEYWORD_SET(COLOR)) ) then COLOR=!d.n_colors-1
```

```
x_size=( strlen(str) * !D.X_CH_SIZE )
y_size=!D.Y_CH_SIZE-4
```

```
x1=x0 + x_size
y1=y0 + y_size
```

```
polyfill, [ [x0,y0],[x0,y1],[x1,y1],[x1,y0] ], /DEVICE, COLOR=MASK_COLOR
xyouts, x0,y0, str, /DEVICE, FONT=fn
```

```
END
```
