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Subject: Funky fonts and PostScript

Posted by [Grady Daub](#) on Thu, 17 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Vector draw fonts are not so pretty when drawn to the monitor. They are rather funky looking.

Eventually, I will be printing all the nice plots I am making for publication or conference over-head projecting. What I've been doing to save the plots is

```
WRITE_GIF,"name.gif",tvrd(),r,g,b
```

The problem is that doing this, the words in the picture (captions, titles, etc.) are still funky looking. I could use hardware fonts, but, it seems cumbersome to pick the right sized font to fit different sized windows, since, CHARSIZE isn't doesn't work with hardware fonts. :-( Also, hardware fonts don't rotate to fit between crooked contour lines, so, I'll not be using them for plotting, only for titles, etc.

Is there a read-made hardware font/font size picker procedure for IDL?

Would vector drawn fonts look non-funky in postscript? Is it much harder to do everything in postscript, rather than the way I've been doing it? Can I even use vector drawn fonts with postscript? I am, of course, assuming that color contour/bar/line plots can be done with postscript.

-Grady Daub

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