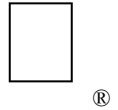


# New Technical Notes

## Macintosh



---

Developer Support

### Script Manager's Pixel2Char Routine Text

Revised by: Mark B. Johnson & Dave McGary  
Written by: Sue Bartalo

August 1989  
June 1989

This Technical Note discusses the `Pixel2Char` routine provided by the Script Manager. **Changes since June 1989:** Clarified information, corrected minor errors, and replaced the illustration.

---

The `leftSide` flag in the `Pixel2Char` routine was inappropriately named, and it should now be called the `leadingEdge` flag. The reason for this change is that the value `Pixel2Char` returns indicates whether a mouse-down occurred on the leading edge of a character, which is not always the left side. (In Arabic or Hebrew, both of which are right-to-left scripts, the mouse-down occurs on the right side of the character.)

With this change, the interfaces also change. Following are both the old and new definitions in Pascal and C respectively:

#### Old Definition

```
FUNCTION Pixel2Char(textBuf: Ptr;textLen: INTEGER;slop: INTEGER;pixelWidth: INTEGER;
    VAR leftSide: BOOLEAN): INTEGER;

pascal short Pixel2Char(Ptr textBuf,short textLen,short slop,short pixelWidth,
    Boolean *leftSide)
```

#### New Definition

```
FUNCTION Pixel2Char(textBuf: Ptr;textLen: INTEGER;slop: INTEGER;pixelWidth: INTEGER;
    VAR leadingEdge: BOOLEAN): INTEGER;

pascal short Pixel2Char(Ptr textBuf,short textLen,short slop,short pixelWidth,
    Boolean *leadingEdge)
```

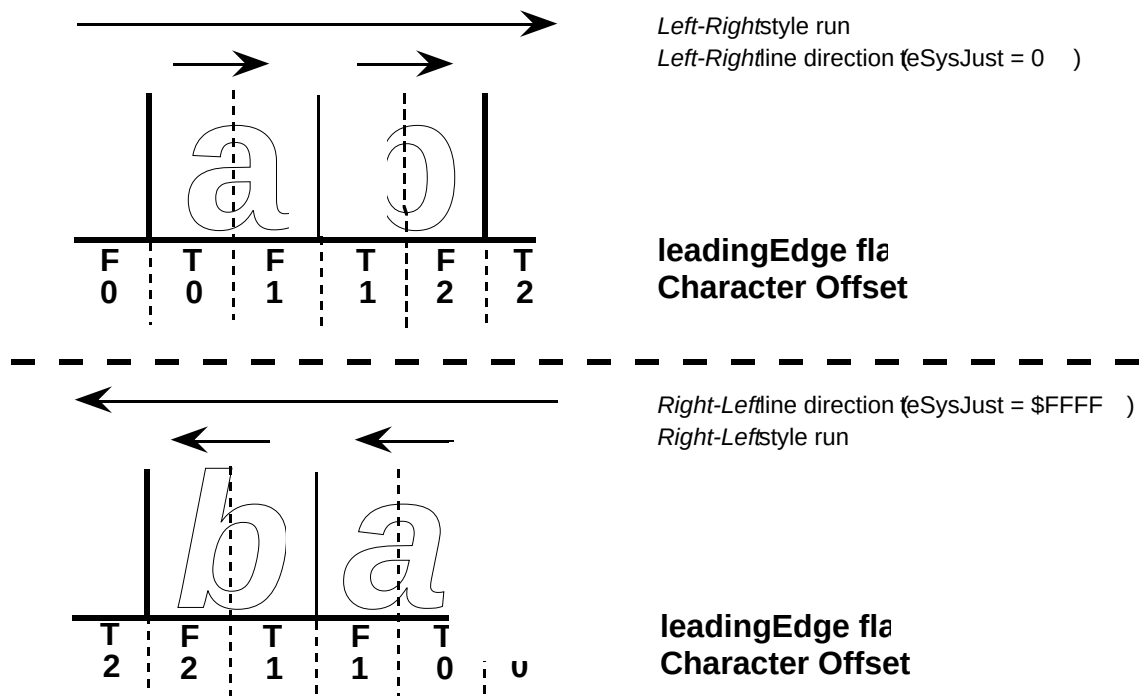
The value of the `leadingEdge` flag is `True` if a mouse-down occurs on the leading edge of the character in its direction (e.g., the left side for a left-to-right script (Roman) and the right side for a right-to-left one (Arabic or Hebrew)). Figure 1 illustrates these differences.

This Note describes the way script systems should work; however, in some systems, the values of `leadingEdge` and character offset are undefined when the `pixelWidth` is outside the boundaries of the text.

You define the start of a right-to-left line to be on the right and the end to be on the left; therefore, it follows that the start of a left-to-right line is on the left, while the end is on the right.

right. The values at the **start** of a line should be `False` for `leadingEdge` and zero for character offset. The values at the **end** are `True` for `leadingEdge` and the character offset is the total byte count of that line. You should check for these out-of-bounds conditions explicitly and perform the appropriate actions. This change will appear in the next version of the Script Manager documentation.

## Character and Line Direction Equal



## Character and Line Direction Unequal

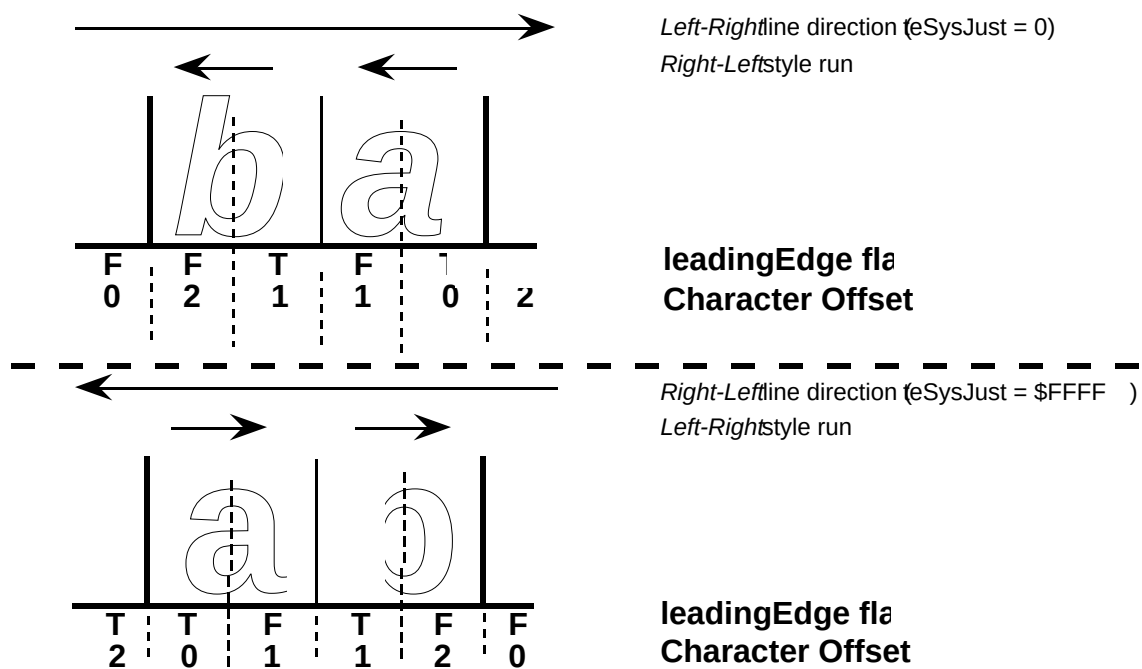


Figure 1—Pixel2Char leadingEdge Flag