
Subject: Plotting vectors

Posted by [Vap User](#) on Fri, 24 Jul 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi;

I posted something on this subject yesterday, but it seems the article got waylaid, so I'm reposting. If you see two messages on vector plotting in IDL, forgive the duplication.

I have a request for a new functionality in IDL. I would like to see something like the following.

Use usersym to define a symbol, in my case, an arrow. Then plot it using

```
plots, x,y, psym=8, orientation=orientation
```

where orientation is an array having the same dimensionality as X/Y and gives the orientation in degrees (or maybe radians?) away from some axis, most likely the X axis.

At the moment I'm forced to loop through the vectors, and all good IDL programmers abhor loops, constructing the actual symbol by a complicated call to plots. Back in the days when I only had to plot 24000 vectors for each swath of data this was tiresome but not terminal, but now I'm working on a project where each swath contains 124K vectors, with 14 swaths per day, each one taking ~30 seconds to plot using a customized version of velovect.pro. 7 mins to wait to see a days data.

Waddy think?

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I don't speak for JPL, it doesn't speak for me.

Well, not all the time, at least.

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