
Subject: Re: Setting ranges on surfaces

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 18 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning wrote:

>

> [...]

> It is

> not really the Z data we want to clip, it is the X and Y

> *locations* of the Z data. This implies (and, frankly, this

> is probably why the [XY]Range keywords don't work) that

> the Z data is tied to the X and Y range vectors. I'm guessing

> that in fact the Z data has nothing to do with those vectors,

> but exist independently of them. That is why changing the

> XRange definitely affects the X axis, but not the surface

> plot itself. In fact, IDL doesn't care what *values* you

> put in the X axis vector, only that it has as many elements

> as the X dimension of the Z data. The scaling of the axes

> and the Z data must exist totally independently of one

> another.

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

Sounds like the solution is some kind of clip function like the quick
hack attached below. Example

```
x=findgen(100)
```

```
y=findgen(50)
```

```
z=dist(100,50)
```

```
zc = sclip(z,x,y,xrange=[20,80],yrange=[20,40],xclip=xc,yclip=yc
```

```
surface,zc,xc,yc
```

Regards,

Martin.

Dr. Martin Schultz

Department for Earth&Planetary Sciences, Harvard University

109 Pierce Hall, 29 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA-02138, USA

phone: (617)-496-8318

fax : (617)-495-4551

e-mail: mgs@io.harvard.edu

```
-----
;+
; SCLIP: clip a 2D Z array, and two matching 1D arrays for x
;   and y.
;
; The function returns a 2D array that is truncated in x and y.
;
; X RANGE, Y RANGE -> the range for x and y in data coordinates
; XCLIP, YCLIP -> return the truncated x and y arrays
;
; author: Martin Schultz, Harvard University (1998)
;
; EXAMPLE: x=findgen(100)
;          y=findgen(50)
;          z=dist(100,50)
;          zc=sclip(z,x,y,xrange=[20,80],yrange=[20,40], $ ;
;             xclip=xc,yclip=yc)
;          surface,zc,xc,yc
;-
function sclip,z,x,y,xrange=xrange,yrange=yrange, $
    xclip=xclip,yclip=yclip

; clip z,x, and y arrays for surface plot
; x and y must be monotone

if (n_elements(xrange) eq 0) then xrange=[min(x,max=xm),xm]
if (n_elements(yrange) eq 0) then yrange=[min(y,max=ym),ym]

; find minimum and maximum index in x and y
ix0 = min(where(x ge xrange[0])) ; <<
ix1 = max(where(x le xrange[1]))
iy0 = min(where(y ge yrange[0]))
iy1 = max(where(y le yrange[1])) ; <<
; NOTE: you can restrain these indices to valid values
; as :
; ix0 = min(...) > 0 ; ix0 always at least 0
; ix1 = max(...) < (n_elements(x)-1) ; prevent subscript range err

if (ix0<ix1<iy0<iy1 ge 0) then begin
    xclip = x[ix0:ix1] ; clipped x array
    yclip = y[iy0:iy1] ; clipped y array
    return,z[ix0:ix1,iy0:iy1] ; clipped z array
endif else $
    message,'Invalid range'

return,-1
```

end
