
Subject: Re: Plotting a Text Box below a plot so that also works when !P.MULTI is set.

Posted by [davidf](#) on Sun, 22 Nov 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Martin Schultz (mgs@io.harvard.edu) writes:

> Hey David!
>
> Wasn't it you yourself who told me about !x.window and !y.window which store
> the size of the current plot window? As a first try you could position your
> text with something like
> px = (!x.window[0]+!x.window[1])/2.
> py = !y.window[0]
> xyouts,px,py,yourtext,/norm,align=0.5
> and if you use the !x.margin and !y.margin keywords, you may even be able to
> prevent the plot and the text box from running into each other.

All true, but NOT, I think, with !P.Multi. For one thing, the !X.Window parameters are not set until *after* the plot is made. It would be possible, probably, to use !P.Multi to do some of the nasty calculating for you. Especially with respect to calculating the proper character size, etc. for the plots. I did something similar with a complicated plot object I created some time ago that had to plot itself into a window grid. But the actual plots were drawn with the parameters that I got from !P.Multi, not by using it directly.

> The beauty of !p.multi is that you can easily specify the number of rows and
> columns without having to go through these non-trivial calculations of the
> position parameter. I don't think one should drop this too fast.

!P.Multi is beautiful. In fact, more beautiful and useful than most people realize. But I still think it is not the correct choice for this particular application.

Cheers,

David

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