
Subject: Re: power style labels
Posted by [steinhh](#) on Sat, 09 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

```
> Atsushi SHIMIZU (shimizu@kurasc.kyoto-u.ac.jp) writes:
>
>> Could anyone tell me how to force IDL to make labels with power style
>> without using [XYZ]TICKNAME?
>
> No, I doubt it. :-)
```

Oh - wanna bet? :-)

Using the xtickformat to name a formatting function, this
can definitely be done. Try the following:

```
FUNCTION ytf,axis,index,n
  IF n EQ 0 THEN return,'0' ;; Special case

  ex = string(n,'(e7.0)')
  pt = strpos(ex, '.')

  first = strmid(ex,pt-1,1)
  sgn = strmid(ex,pt+2,1)
  exp = strmid(ex,pt+3,100)

  ;; Shave off leading zero in exponent
  IF strmid(exp,0,1) EQ '0' THEN exp = strmid(exp,1,100)

  IF sgn EQ '-' THEN return,first+'x10!A'+sgn+exp $
  ELSE          return,first+'x10!A'+exp
END
```

and then do

```
plot, [0, 1e5], ytickformat = 'ytf'
```

It appears that the "native" IDL tickmarks use a special
symbol for "times" - not simply an "x".... but that's
just about the only difference I can see!

Regards,

Stein Vidar
