
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!' + sgn + exp $
  ELSE           return, first + 'x10!' + 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
