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Subject: Re: Virtues of normalized coordinates  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 26 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT  
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Andy Loughe ([afl@cdc.noaa.gov](mailto:afl@cdc.noaa.gov)) claims he is confused by my simple, declarative sentence:

>> Uh, normalized coordinates. All the time. Every time. Every where. :-)

Actually, I was confused for a moment, too, about whether it should be "Everytime" and "Everywhere". I finally decided to write it the way I did, so that the "every" would come out loud and clear. :-)

He elaborates:

> I really don't understand this sentiment. Data coordinates have always  
> worked well for me when placing text, colorbars, etc. around a plot that  
> needs such enhancements. If these things need to "hug" the plot, why  
> use normalized coordinates?

Data coordinates are not a bad fall-back if you are working with, say, a single plot in the display window. But when you are trying to do more complicated things, they get harder to keep track of. (Let's see, if I want to write some text in this place over here between two plots, is that the data coordinate space of the first plot, or the second? Humm.) Normalized coordinates is normalized coordinates. Every where. Every time. And once you learn "0 to 1" there isn't much more you need to know about the concept. :-)

> I have also been a proponent of `!p.multi`  
> with careful attention to margin settings... this may also make me a  
> heretic to some developers. Someone please teach me why I should not  
> disdain the use of `"convert_coord"` and `"position=[*,*,*]"`!

Uh, aren't those POSITION values in normalized coordinates?  
Wonder why that is. :-)

Cheers,

David

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