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Subject: Re: PSYM=10 problem  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 16 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT  
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Liam Gumley <[Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu](mailto:Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu)> writes:

>  
> Laurent Chardon wrote:  
>> Is there a good reason why the first bin plotted by the plot/PSYM=10  
>> combination is half the size of all the others? Can I get around this  
>> behaviour? I want all the bins to be of equal size.  
>  
> A few months ago in this newsgroup, David Fanning convinced me that  
> PSYM=10 would never give an accurate representation of a histogram, and  
> that the only way to do it right is to plot the histogram yourself. As  
> you've noted, the problem is getting the edges of the bins in the right  
> position. I came up with the following procedure which I believe  
> computes and plots a 'correct' histogram (let me know if I'm wrong!):

Thanks to Liam for his sample program. I also have a histogram  
plotter called PLOTBIN. While it leaves the histogramming to you  
(unlike Liam's), it does a pretty good job of actually plotting the  
right thing.

It is distinguished by the ability to plot bins of different widths,  
which is especially nice on log-log graphs. You can specify a single  
binsize with the WIDTH keyword, or give a vector of widths, one for  
each bin.

Craig  
<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html>

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