
Subject: Re: How does IDL calculate the graph axis values?

Posted by [mallors](#) on Wed, 02 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <38986E90.5B2D58C8@ssec.wisc.edu>,

"Liam E. Gumley" <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> writes:

> Declan Vogt wrote:

>

>> I'd like to find out what IDL will use as the max and min values for a
>> graph axis before it actually plots the axis. I've been doing this by
>> creating a window, drawing the axis, and reading !x.crange, then erasing
>> the window, but it's not very elegant, and it doesn't work for
>> postscript.

>>

>> Does anyone know if there is an IDL routine I can call?

>

> I don't think there's a built-in routine for this purpose. However you can
> always use the Z buffer as a temporary graphics device:

>

> Say your data is defined as follows:

>

> x = findgen(200) * 0.1

> y = sin(x)

>

> First you save the current graphics setup:

>

> entry_device = !d.name

> entry_window = !d.window

> entry_config = {x:!x, y:!y, z:!z, map:!map}

>

> Then you create a temporary plot in the Z buffer:

>

> set_plot, 'Z'

> device, z_buffer=0

> plot, x, y, /nodata, xstyle=4, ystyle=4, /noerase, /ynozero

> xrange = !x.crange

> yrange = !y.crange

There is also the 'NULL' device to suppress
graphics output entirely:

```
dSave = !D.NAME
SET_PLOT, 'NULL'
.
.
.
SET_PLOT, dSave
```

Regards,

-bob mallozzi

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
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