
Subject: Controlling axis labels in IDL plots?

Posted by [Rachel Howe](#) on Wed, 12 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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I wonder if anyone can help me with a graphics problem?

I'm getting very finicky about my IDL plots. (I use direct graphics only, no objects --

conceptually I'm still in the v3.6 era).

I've learned to use the !p, !x and !y system variables, their associated keywords,

and the axis command, to override most of the defaults, but one thing eludes me.

Does anyone know how the distance of the axis label from the axis is determined in a single-panel 2d plot?

There doesn't seem to be any way to control it directly, but it must be some arcane function of the plot area, position/margin settings, and character size. If anyone knows an algorithm, I'd be delighted to hear it.

Or would it be easier to give up and just use XYOUTS to put the annotations where I want them?

Thanks in advance for any suggestions!

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