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Subject: Re: axis in scientific notation

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Tue, 20 Jun 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Andrew wrote:

>  
> Hi. I would have thought this is a FAQ, but  
> I could not find anything in teh Deja archives.  
>  
> I have a graph in IDL direct graphics and  
> IDL is writing the Y-axis in "scientific" or  
> exponential notation -- i.e.  $3.0 \times 10^4$  etc.  
>  
> Is there a way to force normal notation?  
>  
> I know I could draw my own ticks with custom  
> labels or whatever --- I'm wondering if there  
> is an easier way, tho.

Use the X/Y/Z TICKFORMAT keyword, e.g.

```
IDL> plot, sin(findgen(200) * 0.1), ytickformat='(e9.2)'
```

e9.2 means 9 characters (including sign and exponent) with 2 characters after the decimal point.

Cheers,  
Liam.

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