Subject: Re: Rotating tick labels
Posted by TomC on Wed, 15 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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I would have preferred EASY, of course... but, I'll take anything that works. Thanks, that did do the trick. I was doing something similar, but I wasn't 'shrinking' the plot area on the page, so that when I tried to create the labels using XYOUTS, I must have been outside the 'writable' area. Thanks, David, I appreciate the fast help.

TomC
"David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.147c86e1a2107933989c82@news.frii.com...
> TomC (tom_syn58@hotmail.com) writes:
>
>> I am using IDL 5.4 to create PostScript files of plain old X-Y plots. Some
>> of the plots have usernames as the x-axis tick labels. When there are lots
>> of users, or long names and lots of users, the labels overwrite each other,
>> creating an un-readable mess. Is there an easy way to have the tick labels
>> created at an angle? Thanks in advance.
>
> I have a short section in my book about how this can be done.
> I was going to take it out of the 2nd Edition because I was
> trying to save pages and I thought "who would ever need to
> know how to do this?". But at the last minute I left it in.
> You never know. :-)
>
> Anyway, if you mean by "easy" some kind of keyword switch,
> then the answer is "no". But is is not too hard either.
>
> Suppose you are going to have 5 tick intervals, labeled
> with 6 tick labels on the X axis:
>
>   numticks = 5
>   labels = ['One', 'Two', 'Three', 'Four', 'Five', 'Six']
>
> Draw the plot, leaving some room for the rotated labels:
>
>   Plot, findgen(11), XTickFormat='(A1)', XStyle=1, $
>   XTicks=numticks, Position=[0.1, 0.2, 0.85, 0.95]
>
> Calculate positions for the labels:
>
>   ypos = Replicate(!Y.Window[0] - 0.04, numticks+1)

```
>    xpos = !X.Window[0] + (!X.Window[1] - !X.Window[0]) * $
>      Findgen(numticks + 1) / numticks
>
> Position the labels:
>
>    FOR j=0, numticks DO XYOutS, xpos[j], ypos[j], $
>      labels[j], Alignment=0.0, Orientation=-45, /Normal
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
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