
Subject: Re: PLOT procedure (was: Julian Day Numbers)
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 21 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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James Tappin <sjt@star.sr.bham.ac.uk> writes:

- > One real gotcha with Julian day numbers is if you try to use them for a
- > time axis on a plot.
- >
- > It works fine for long time axes, but if you try looking at high-resolution
- > data things look really messy.
- >
- > The problem is that PLOT converts to single-precision before converting
- > coordinates to data and this means that all values are truncated to the
- > nearest quarter day (for IEEE floats).

I agree that double precision plotting is important. Sometimes you just need it. However I think that in this case you really want to subtract a time offset anyway. Consider that your axis labels will never be pretty if you are using full Julian days. [for those that don't know Julian days of this millenium number in the millions]. You can put in your XTITLE or TITLE the time offset and be done with it.

Nit-pickily yours,
Craig

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