
Subject: Re: Displaying error bars

Posted by [Med Bennett](#) on Fri, 13 Apr 2001 02:14:52 GMT

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This is a situation where I would say that you might as well roll your own - it's not as hard as it sounds. Something like the following, after you plot your data (x,y):

```
for i=0,n_elements(x) do begin
  plots, [x[i]-err[i],x[i]+err[i]] , [y[i],y[i]] , color=0,thick=2 ; draw the
  horiz. error bar
  plots, [x[i]-err[i],x[i]-err[i]] ,
  [y[i]+0.02*!c.yrange,y[i]-0.02*!c.yrange] , color=0,thick=2 ;make some little
  tick marks on the ends if you want
  plots, [x[i]+err[i],x[i]+err[i]] ,
  [y[i]+0.02*!c.yrange,y[i]-0.02*!c.yrange]] , color=0,thick=2
endfor
```

(Not sure if the !c.yrange part is correct.) You also should probably use Postscript output, that way you have more control over the final result's format and appearance.

- Med

"Miklos Z. Kiss" wrote:

> Is there an easy way to create horizontal error bars in IDL plots? Also, I
> recently discovered that the IDL routine ERRPLOT does not allow you change
> the color of the error bars. I typically do plots in black on a white
> background (so I can copy the image into documents, etc.), rendering the
> error bars invisible. Is there a way around this too?
