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Subject: Re: 2-D Density Plots

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Tue, 14 Jan 2003 00:46:41 GMT

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"Justin Sieglaff" <justins@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
news:9bc4f51c.0301131508.73b9098d@posting.google.com...

> I was wondering if anyone knows of a simple way to create 2-d density  
> plots? Any help would be great!

What do you mean by "2D density plot". Do you mean a plot that displays 2D  
numeric data as a 2D array of cells, with the colour of each cell  
representing the corresponding numeric value via a number->color mapping?

Plots like these tend to be loosely called "image plots" in the IDL  
community. Matlab refers to them as pseudo-color plots. In the Mathematica  
documentation they're referred to as density plots. And this is the term  
that I have tended to use.

There is a lot of IDL software out there to plot density plots (in this  
sense)

Have a look at David Fanning's XIMAGE at

<http://www.dfanning.com/>

Craig Markwardt's PLOTIMAGE at

<http://astrog.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html>

Liam Gumley's IMDISP at

[http://www.gumley.com/PIP/Free\\_Software.html](http://www.gumley.com/PIP/Free_Software.html)

I have tried several ways of implementing density plots in object graphics  
in my Motley IDL library:

<ftp://ftp.niwa.co.nz/incoming/m.hadfield/idl/README.html>

See the MGH\_Density class & the MGH\_EXAMPLE\_DENSITY example program.

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