
Subject: using `convert_coord` with multiple plotting windows

Posted by [jbattat](#) on Mon, 10 Nov 2003 21:25:40 GMT

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I have a widget that contains 2 draw widgets, say `plot1` and `plot2`, (used for x-y data plotting). The user can select a rubber band box to choose a zoom window on either draw widget.

When the user chooses a rubber band box, the box coordinates are returned in device units (`event.x` and `event.y`). To achieve the zoom, I use `convert_coord` to convert device units to data units and then replot with new `xrange` and `yrange` keywords.

However, `convert_coord` "can only provide valid results if a window is open and current." (IDL 5.5 doc)

This means that if `plot2` is created after `plot1`, then `convert_coord` will only be valid for rubber band boxes drawn on `plot2`.

I'd like the rubber band box to be valid in both plotting windows, regardless of the order plot generation!

Is there a way to have `convert_coord` refer to the device/data coordinates of a previous plot, or to refresh the device/data conversion buffer (if that's the way it works)?

Alternatively, is there a way to get the mouse event to return data coordinates (there's nothing that I've seen in the doc that suggests yes)? Or some other way to get xy ranges in data units for two (or more) plots?

Thanks very much in advance,
James
