
Subject: Re: Zooming in place

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 01 Nov 2005 14:18:37 GMT

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Rick Towler wrote:

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> Paul Van Delst wrote:

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>> One GUI who's functionality I have always wanted in IDL for both
>> regular old x-y plots and images is that of map zooms like you see at
>> yahoo or msn. You can click and zoom (with a little indicator on the
>> side telling you your "zoom level") or you can turn off the zoom once
>> you've achieved your required level and the click just recenters the
>> display (or you have buttons at the N-S-E-W edges, and corners). One
>> thing I always find when looking at data in IDL is that once I've
>> zoomed (via rubber-band) to the level I want, I would like to traverse
>> my plot. The only way I can do that now is to unzoom (right button
>> click) and then zoom in again on a different part of my plot. It
>> works, but unfortunately I no longer have the luxury of time to
>> further develop my simple tool (I thought the yearly maintenance fee
>> would be a good substitute but, alas, that scenario hasn't
>> eventuated), and, jeez, this is the 21st century for pete's sake. :o)
>> When I look over the shoulder of matlab users they're zooming and
>> moving and bee-bopping all over the place! I think I'm developing
>> data-language envy :o(actually, :o)

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> Can you say "iTools"?

I refrained from it in my original post, but, yes I can: @*\$^@%\$#%&!

:o)

I've found the iTools stuff to be some of the most counter-intuitive GUIs I have ever used for displaying data. And it's just too slow. We get PC upgrades about every 3 or so years - I've got about 1 year to go and just using iPlot to zoom a 10^6 point $y=x^2$ plot is agonizingly slow compared to my simple, brain-dead wplot routine. I don't think it's reasonable for me to have to get a new PC just so some new features work fast enough when I know similar functionality is already available (from v5 onwards). And, frankly, given the heritage of iTools, I'm not surprised. Can anyone say Insight? Or Live_Tools?

I was going to continue my rant (blood pressure rising...) about all the effort on the OO stuff at the expense of just about everything else, but my iPlot just finished displaying (sans axes I might add....oh, there they are). So, I'm going to zoom in, go get a coffee while that cogitation is occurring, and then print the plot to a PostScript file.... hang on, there's no PS option. Bummer.

paulv

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Paul van Delst
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC
