
Subject: Re: xyouts for iPlot?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 29 Aug 2007 16:23:58 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

> In article <1188352232.492045.316340@l22g2000prc.googlegroups.com>,

> pdoherty <pdoherty@earthlink.net> wrote:

>

[snip]

>> So, in as few words as possible, can someone tell me how to annotate a

>> plot I've made by calling iPlot from within my program?

>>

>> Sorry if this is a trivial problem, but I haven't figured it out.

>>

>

> You need to do something like this

>

> idAnnotate = itool_obj -> FindIdentifiers('*/ANNOTATION LAYER') ;Get annotation
layer ID

> oAnnotate = itool_obj -> getByIdentifier(idAnnotate) ;Get annotation object

> oAnnotate -> add, OBJ_NEW('IDLitVisText', _STRING = 'This is a string', \$;Add title in
annotation plane

> ALIGNMENT = 0.5, \$

> VERTICAL_ALIGNMENT = 1.0, \$

> FONT_SIZE = 24, \$

> LOCATION = [0.5, 0.5, 0.5])

>

Holy cow.

Would syntactic sugar be sufficient to avoid the first two calls? Why can't the interface to add a text string do all the heavy lifting so the user doesn't have to necessarily know about retrieving identifiers and objects and knowing the precise object name(s)? ('IDLitVisText'? Who came up with that oh so intuitive name?)

e.g.

PRO itool_xyouts, itool_obj, string, _extra=extra

idAnnotate = itool_obj -> FindIdentifiers('*/ANNOTATION LAYER')

oAnnotate = itool_obj -> getByIdentifier(idAnnotate)

oAnnotate -> add, OBJ_NEW('IDLitVisText', _STRING = string, _extra=extra)

END

At the very, IDL should provide the same basic functionality and *ease of use* for OG as we have in DG.

cheers,

paulv
