
Subject: Re: direct graphics or object graphics ?
Posted by [Mark\[1\]](#) on Wed, 07 May 2008 22:41:49 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On May 7, 10:53 pm, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Bernat wrote:

>> for i=0, 1000 do oplot, datax[i,*], datay[i,*]

>> Drawing all the plots is a good idea for analyse the data.

>

> Something tells me there are several people you've yet to convince of
> this ;-) (myself included). Just out of curiosity, what are you trying
> to visualise in this way? I'd be interested to know how sparsely
> scattered a dataset would need to be for this method to give you
> something other than a headache. :-)

I'm with Bernat: even with large datasets, drawing all the data as line plots can be useful as a quick way of distinguishing sparsely populated regions of the parameter space from densely populated regions, and for detecting outliers.

I recall that back in 1994 or so I used IDL to plot several time series of air pollution data, with $\sim 10^6$ points per time series, and saw stuff in there that others had not seen, because they were stuck with puny spreadsheet-based plotting tools. ... That would have been Direct Graphics, BTW :-)
