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Subject: Re: Is it possible to do overplot in xplot?  
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 13:30:58 GMT  
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mystea wrote:

> Hi David,  
>  
> The MPI\_plot procedure is indeed very helpful. However, does it  
> support  
> things like xyouts?  
>  
> For me, the most desirable feature for plotting is the ability to  
> print the  
> plot on a direct graphics window directly to ps/eps/printer. Retyping  
> all  
> the previous commands into ps/printer is truly tiresome,

Ever heard of "copy & paste"?

Ciao,  
Paolo

> the worst  
> part is  
> when one makes a tiny mistake, everything must be redone from the  
> start!  
>  
> While I noticed there are procedures like TVRead, the quality of  
> output is  
> not as good as I would like it to be.  
>  
> I wish I will learn enough IDL to participate in the open source  
> project  
> one day...  
>  
> Gene  
>  
> Gene  
>  
>  
>  
> On Oct 14, 5:56 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:  
>> mystea writes:  
>>> I found David's xplot procedure very helpful, because one can easily  
>>> produce a postscript without typing bunches of commands for setting  
>>> devices!  
>>  
>>> However, I don't know how to do overplot or xyouts with it, nor can I

```
>>> create new plot without destroying the old object. (like what we used
>>> to do in direct graphics)
>>
>>> Is this the limitation of object graphics? Or there is some way to
>>> add these features into the existing code?
>>
>> First of all, I don't know about iPlot. I've never used
>> it. It is not so much a limitation of object graphics,
>> as one of its strengths. You can do *everything* in
>> object graphics, if you are willing to spend months
>> figuring out how to do it.
>>
>> I'd give MPI_PLOT a go. It is easy to overplot with that,
>> and you get most of the supposed "advantages" of iPlot,
>> without the god awful complexity.
>>
>> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/mpi\_plot.zip
>>
>> Cheers,
>>
>> David
>>
>> P.S. I'll be talking about how to build this *exact*
>> application (in about 20 minutes!) at the IDL Users
>> Group meeting on Thursday. This will correspond, roughly,
>> with the release of my Catalyst Library as an Open Source
>> software project. I'm thinking this might well result in
>> iTool-like programs that even somebody like me can program. :-)
>> --
>> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:http://www.dfanning.com/
>> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
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