
Subject: Re: Common x- and y-axes labels.....

Posted by [David Gell](#) on Mon, 02 Mar 2009 13:36:47 GMT

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On Feb 28, 1:38 pm, bobbylough <loughnane.rob...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Dear all,

>

> I was wondering whether it was possible to construct in IDL a common

> x- and y-axis annotation for a matrix of plots. I have a 2*6 matrix of

> plots and would like to produce an figure displaying all 12 plots

> along with a just the one x- and y- labeling, which would be

> positioned somewhere near the centre of each ordinate. Thanks in

> advance.....

>

> Regards,

> Robert.

I assume that the idea is to have twelve plots in two columns with axis annotations on one plot near the center of the matrix. The code might look something like

```
for nl=0,1 do begin
  for nJ=0,5 do begin
```

```
    ;;compute position of plot
```

```
    plot, x[* ,ni,nj], y[* ,ni,nj], ...
```

```
  endfor
```

```
endfor
```

You can use the graphics keywords [xy]tickname to suppress the tick labels on all but the desired plot. You can also use [xy]title to specify the axis title for the plots you want. In the example above use something like

```
xtickname= ((ni eq 1) && nJ eq 2) ? " : replicate(' ', 30)
xtitle = ((ni eq 1) && nJ eq 2) ? 'this is the x axis' : ''
```

If you specify a null string with the xtickname keyword, IDL labels the ticks, if you specify an array IDL uses the array. So to label the tickmarks on one axis in the set, supply the null string to xtick name for the plot you want labeled and an array of blanks for those you don't.
