Subject: Re: Adding Text/Equations to Plots
Posted by Michael Galloy on Mon, 16 Mar 2009 20:16:43 GMT
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Jean H. wrote:
> Heather wrote:
>
>> IDL> numbers=findgen(10)
>> IDL> string="This is a number: numbers(6)"
>> IDL> print, string
>> This is a number: numbers(6)
>
>> Any advice would be greatly appreciated, but I'm fairly new to the
>> world of IDL, so please use "simple" explanations!
>> Thanks,
>> Heather
>
> Heather,
> You can do string concatenation and conversion
>
> print, "this is a number " + string(numbers[6])
>
> you can also have more control... remove the blanks:
>
> print, "this is a number " + strtrim(numbers[6],2)
>
> or even add formats:
> print, "this is a number " + string(numbers[6],format = '(I)')
>
> and with no blanks
>
> print, "this is a number " + strtrim(string(numbers[6],format = '(I)'),2)
>
> Jean
> PS: replace print, by text = if you want to save the string

I have been steering away from string concatenation and using C format
strings for almost everything lately:

IDL> print, numbers[6], format='(%"This is a number: %f.")'

I think the code is a more readable. Of course, then you have to learn
the available format codes (with C and Fortran versions to choose from).

The STRING command accept the same FORMAT if you want to pass the string
to a keyword of XYOUTS, PLOT, etc.

By the way, I hate that I have to type five extra characters to get

C-style format codes. Maybe a cformat option to COMPILE_OPT to switch the default format to C-style? (Yes, I know "cformat" is seven characters.)

Mike
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