
Subject: Re: Using [XYZ]TICKFORMAT for dynamic formatting
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 21 May 2009 21:14:46 GMT
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Mark wrote:

> On May 20, 3:09 am, Paul van Delst <paul.vande...@noaa.gov> wrote:
>> The problem is that I want the format in the "lowticks" function, the "f7.3", to be the
>> same as those automatically chosen by IDL in the plots where the xtickformat defaults.
>
> You can pass a function to [XYZ]TICKFORMAT, and in this function you
> can do anything you want, including calling the IDL function
> FORMAT_AXIS_VALUES, which is the one that is called to format axis
> values (that figures).
>
> Actually, not quite anything you want, because the function passed to
> [XYZ]TICKFORMAT function works on tick value at a time, so the number
> of decimal places is likely to vary. So where IDL would show...
>
> 1.0 1.5 2.0
>
> ...FORMAT_AXIS_VALUES would give
>
> 1 1.5 2

Wow. Thanks Mark. I do have to paraphrase David Fannings comment though: How the heck was

I supposed to find that?!? :o)

Once my IDL help is working again (I just got my system rebuilt to use RHE5.0 and I'm getting a boatload of "JVM terminated. Exit code=1" errors whenever I type "?" at the IDL prompt) I will investigate using the magic FORMAT_AXIS_VALUES function.

Thanks muchly. This will solve a lot of problems.

cheers,

paulv
