

---

Subject: Re: How not to plot blank/zero points?

Posted by [Adam Solomon](#) on Sun, 02 Aug 2009 05:25:25 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Aug 1, 10:17 pm, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Aug 2, 12:50 am, Adam Solomon <rampa...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> I have an array (matrix, about 13 columns) of strings consisting of  
>> numbers and blanks\*. When I plot the data in each column, the blanks  
>> get plotted as zeroes, so if I just plot points, things are OK (as  
>> long as I start my plot range above 0), but if I want to connect the  
>> points with lines then there are lines going to and from these blank  
>> points.

>

>> How do I make IDL not plot these blank points (or points equal to 0)?

>> The only way I've found is by plotting in log (so the points don't

>> even show up) but for various reasons I'd rather not use log.

>

>> \*If I were to do this as a floating point array, the blanks all become

>> 0.000, and that doesn't help.

>

> Saying your array is called data, here are 3 ways to do it:

>

> 1) Filter out the blanks, using where() to find the points you want,

> as in:

> iplot,data[where(data ne 0.0)]

> assuming the blanks are 0.0. If they are empty strings, as your

> description suggests:

> iplot,data[where(data ne "")]

> or use whatever value the blanks happen to have in the argument of

> where()

>

> 2) If you want to plot only values in a certain range, use the

> min\_value and/or max\_value keywords:

> iplot,data,min\_value=minv

> with minv of a proper value, higher than 0., and lower than the

> minimum you want to plot

>

> 3) Mark the points you do not want to plot with NaN, as in:

> data[where(data eq 0.0)]=!values.f\_nan

> iplot,data

> Everything with a value of NaN is ignored by iplot.

Thanks!! I use plot (I'm not sure what iplot is) - will these work  
with plot as well? Unable to try at the moment.

---