Subject: Re: How not to plot blank/zero points?
Posted by penteado on Sun, 02 Aug 2009 05:17:25 GMT
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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
descritpion 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.