
Subject: How to query New Graphics object properties?
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 15 Nov 2010 23:40:59 GMT
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Hello,

Is there a way to query the properties of a NG object?

For example, if I do a simple

```
IDL> x = lindgen(100)
```

```
IDL> p = plot(x)
```

is there any way to get the MARGIN property of the created plot? I couldn't find a way to do it in the docs, and the

created objects don't seem to have a class:

```
IDL> help, p
```

```
P          OBJREF   = <ObjHeapVar21383>
```

```
IDL> help, obj_class(p)
```

```
<Expression>  STRING  = "
```

```
IDL> help, obj_hasmethod(p,'getproperty')
```

```
<Expression>  BYTE    =  0
```

The reason I ask is because when I create a plot with small y-values, the y-tickvalues are in exponential format and the y-title is off the edge of the plot. I want to set the margin of the left-hand side to give more room. Checking the property list does show margins (only two) but when I use them explicitly they don't give the same space around the plot as specifying no margin keyword.

Anyway, after trial-and-erroring, I found the following produces approximately the same margins as the default:

```
IDL> p2=plot(x,margin=[0.13,0.12,0.08,0.12])
```

where the order is [left,bottom,right,top].

If anyone can suggest a smarter way, please do. I'm hoping I'm suffering from severe brain-fade and failed to see something obvious in the docs.

cheers,

paulv
