
Subject: Re: Questions about IDL 8.0

Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 24 Nov 2010 20:15:04 GMT

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On Nov 24, 6:00 pm, Michael Galloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> But I don't see where 'zaxis' appears at all:

>

> IDL> foreach el,s['zaxis*'] do print, el.identifier

> AXIS2

> AXIS5

> AXIS8

> AXIS11

>

> It seems like it is doing something smart, but I'm not sure exactly what

> it is. For example, 'zaxis*' matches all the axes pointing in the z

> direction:

>

> IDL> foreach el, s['zaxis*'] do el.hide = 1

Yes, the overload function is not matching by the names of the objects (though it could), it is using `igetid()` to decide what is the best match for the string given. The help on `igetid()` says

"You do not need to enter the exact substring of the intended visualization object. IGETID's matching algorithm overlooks small formatting irregularities to return the match(es) that best fit the given substring."

In this particular case, when `igetid()` sees one is searching for axes, it determines if the string specifies a direction (from it containing x|y|z), and if so, only returns the axes with the corresponding direction:

```
IDL> s=surface(/test,axis_style=2)
```

```
IDL> foreach el,s['axis*'] do print,el.name, el.direction
```

```
Axis 0      0
```

```
Axis 1      1
```

```
Axis 2      2
```

```
Axis 3      0
```

```
Axis 4      1
```

```
Axis 5      2
```

```
Axis 6      0
```

```
Axis 7      1
```

```
Axis 8      2
```

```
Axis 9      0
```

```
Axis 10     1
```

```
Axis 11     2
```

```
IDL> foreach el,s['zaxis*'] do print,el.name, el.direction
```

```
Axis 2      2
Axis 5      2
Axis 8      2
Axis 11     2
IDL> foreach el,s[*Axis 2*] do print,el.name, el.direction
Axis 2      2
```
