
Subject: Re: FSC_PLOT defaults

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 2010 15:58:12 GMT

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Paul van Delst writes:

> Wha..? Seriously?

>

> I will agree that you can plot everything you need to plot with either direct or function (aka "new") graphics, but the

> ability to easily manipulate the function graphic result, outside of its creation routine, after it's been created is a

> huge step forward. And this step is built upon existing tools (object graphics), involving more packaging and interface

> updates than actual new functionality. I find function graphics way more useful than iTools. Go figure.

Paul, take it easy!

I'd probably be a fan of function graphics, too, if I could get IDL 8 to work on my computer. But I'm stuck in IDL 7 for the time being, waiting for the problems to be sorted out. If I judge the people sending me e-mail and browsing my web page correctly, I'm not the only one wishing for some easy alternative.

These are simple, they are fast, they produce the PostScript output you expect. You can actually write programs with them (as opposed, say, to just display data). There are just a lot of things to like about them. But, you don't have to use them if you don't want to. :-)

Anyway, this is just a stop-gap until I can get IDL 8 running. Then I have some ideas for function graphics commands that work the way I want them to. Maybe you will like those better. ;-)

But, yes, seriously! I don't feel any great need for anything fancier than direct graphics. If you can make a PostScript file and you can install ImageMagick, most of the things I have complained about for years are solved. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
