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Subject: Re: plot colored ellipses

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 25 Mar 2012 14:59:34 GMT

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bing999 writes:

- > I made a simple 2D scatter plot from a square array "matrix", using
- > plot, matrix,psym=3. I would like to make nice-looking images by:
- > - plotting ellipses instead of points (but centered on the points
- > coordinates)
- > - orientate these ellipses as I want
- > - use different colors for them
- > - apply a color gradient to each ellipse, i.e bright red in the center
- > and light at the edge
- > - etc
- >
- > Could you please tell me where I should start to make such image?

I would start in your dreams, because I'm pretty sure  
that's the only place where this is likely to happen.  
It *\*definitely\** is not going to happen in IDL direct  
graphics routines. :-)

Well, I guess you could figure out how to draw and rotate  
ellipses, and then load them for use with plot commands.  
(See SymCat for an example of how this is done.) And, you  
could certainly figure out how to make them different colors.

But there is no chance whatsoever of a color gradient. :-)

Sounds like something function graphics ought to be able to  
do. ;-)

Cheers,

David

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

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

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