Subject: Function graphics /OVERPLOT redefines axis limits after plot with /NODATA
Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Tue, 03 Jul 2012 15:33:01 GMT
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Hello,

I've just "discovered" this weirdness:

IDL> x=plot(lindgen(100)-50,/nodata)
IDL> xi=plot(x.xrange,[0,0],linestyle='dash',/overplot)

On my system, the second command with the /OVERPLOT redefines the yrange of the resulting plot.

The documentation of PLOT, /NODATA states:
"Set this property to 1 to create the graphic, but without any data attached to it. The axes and title (if present) are
also created and displayed."

The documentation of PLOT, /OVERPLOT states:
"Set this property to 1 (one) to place the graphic on top of the existing graphic in the current window."

Now the /NODATA docs state there is no data attached to the plot... but there is some data/information attached to it
since the axis limits are defined and displayed correctly when the plot is initially created.

Note that if the initial /NODATA is not used,

IDL> x=plot(lindgen(100)-50)
IDL> xi=plot(x.xrange,[0,0],linestyle='dash',/overplot)

everything behaves as expected.

In what universe does /OVERPLOT mean:
/ONLY_OVERPLOT_DEPENDING_ON_HOW_THE_EXISTING_GRAPHIC_WAS_CRE
ATED_OTHERWISE_REDEFINE_AXIS_LIMITS.

My IDL:
IDL> print, !version
{ x86 linux unix linux 8.1 Mar 9 2011 32 64}

Sigh. Anyone know if this has been fixed in v8.2? [*]

not-so-cheerily yours,

paulv

[*] With my luck it will have been fixed, but the undocumented /HISTOGRAM keyword to PLOT() will also have been removed
(see my thread from yesterday)
