

---

Subject: Re: Plotting a compass  
Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Sat, 10 Nov 2012 02:01:18 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi Davide,

Just to add a data point, there's nothing wrong with how you are computing the xy points, getting the perpendicular slope by taking  $-1/m1$ .

```
x0 = 0.8
y0 = 0.75
x1 = 0.85
y1 = 0.77
```

```
; slope of the first arrow:
m1 = (y1 - y0)/(x1 - x0)
```

```
x2 = 0.78
y2 = y0 - 1./m1 * (x2 - x0)
```

```
Plot,[x0,x1],[y0,y1],/Isotropic,xr=[0,1],yr=[0,1]
oPlot,[x0,x2],[y0,y2]
```

Using data coordinates with isotropic axes shows nice perpendicular line segments. Using normalized coordinates with a non-square drawing area will not! :-) You'll need to scale x or y lengths by the aspect ratio. To me that seems easier than using polar coords, but I may be missing something. Hope this helps!

Cheers,  
-Dick

Dick Jackson Software Consulting  
Victoria, BC, Canada

On Friday, November 9, 2012 2:47:48 PM UTC-8, David Fanning wrote:

```
> Davide writes:
>
>
>> So, how do I put a colorbar when I use cgImage to print on a eps?
>
>> cgColorbar comes after the instruction that directs the output to the eps.
>
>>
>
>> cgIMAGE, f, POSITION=p, /KEEP_ASPECT_RATIO, MINVALUE = 0,
outfilename='wonderfulplot.eps', OUTPUT = 'EPS'
>
```

```

>>  cgColorbar, FORMAT='(F2.0)', Position=[p[2], p[1], p[2]+0.015, p[3] ], ncolors=256, /vertical,
/ right, Divisions=4, Range=[minc, maxc]
>
>>
>
> I would do it pretty much the way you were doing it before:
>
>
>
> PS_Start, 'wonderfulplot.eps'
>
> cgIMAGE, f, POSITION=p, /KEEP_ASPECT_RATIO, MINVALUE = 0
>
> cgColorbar, FORMAT='(F2.0)', Position=[p[2],p[1],p[2]+0.015 p[3]], $
>
>  ncolors=256, /vertical, /right, Divisions=4, Range=[minc, maxc]
>
> PS_End
>
>
>
>> For what concerns the arrows, I guess that the problem is that I am using normal coordinates,
that's why they are not orthogonal. I should switch to the data coordinates. Anyway, they look the
same than the arrows obtained with the old function.
>
>
>
> Well, you will certainly have to take into account the aspect
>
> ratio of the plotting window if you are going to use normalized
>
> coordinates. But, that is just another good reason to use polar
>
> coordinates. R and Theta are both going to be easy to calculate! :-)
>
>
>
> Cheers,
>
>
>
> David
>
> --
>
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

```

>  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
>  
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---