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Subject: Re: Plotting a compass

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 09 Nov 2012 19:36:01 GMT

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Davide writes:

> Hi guys, I am trying to plot something like a compass on top of an image (a 2D matrix filled with floats. It is supposed to be a flux map for an astronomical object. No reliable wcs system inside). So I ended up using "arrow".  
> I am having difficulties plotting two orthogonal arrows. The code (see below) seems fine to me. Is that something related to some rescaling? (Or maybe I made some awkward mistake).  
> Also, can you suggest something more up to date than tvscale? Consider that my goal is have maps with a color bar and spatial scales along x and y.

Oh, dear! :-(

I don't know where to start. I guess I'd start by updating your Coyote Library to something that was written in the, I don't know, last 10 years or so. Things have changed. In fact, things have changed TODAY!

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/coyoteprograms.zip>

Humm. The cgImage program is perfectly capable of adding axes with different ranges so you can set up a data coordinate system, etc. And cgArrow can make prettier arrows than you are making.

I guess if I were going to think about drawing orthogonal vectors I would be thinking about working in polar coordinates, rather than rectangular coordinates. The angle thing would be a LOT easier! You can use CV\_COORD to do the conversions for you.

Weird dimensions on the PostScript file, too. What are you going to do with that thing when you are done with it?

Cheers,

David

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

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

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