
Subject: Re: convert_coord & overplotting across multiple widget draw windows
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 10 Jan 2013 03:07:20 GMT
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Brian Cherinka writes:

> 1.) Is there an easy way to erase the previous over-plotted lines without re-plotting the whole window?

Put the basic plot in a pixmap window and use the ol' smoke and mirrors trick of Device Copy to "erase" the overplotted lines. It happens so fast no one will suspect what you are doing. It is shocking how many fabulous things can be done with such a simple technique. See the AnnotateWindow program, for example:

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/catalyst/annotate.html>

> 2.) How would you suggest combining a single left-click to "click and plot something" and a left-click drag a rubber-band box to create a window to zoom in on the plot? I was thinking of putting the "click+plot" on a left button release event and have the box drawing on the motion, with a condition on release that if the new mouse coords are different than the old, then it's not a single click..so do the box thing and zoom.

It is VERY easy for draw widget event handling code to get completely out of control if you try to be too clever. It's sometimes a lot easier to put the draw window into "modes": draw plot mode, zoom mode, make a box mode, etc. That way, you can just have different event handlers that get selected for the draw widget, depending on what mode it is in. This is a LOT easier to handle. The example above is a good example of this technique, too.

Cheers,

David

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