
Subject: Re: plot and contour inconsistency

Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Sun, 10 Mar 2013 20:09:27 GMT

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> This is kind of an odd way to write a program. What are you hoping to
> accomplish by doing this?

There is a program that makes survey plots of satellite data that has a window that allows me to switch between time periods. I wanted to be able to change a few of the default attributes of the plots for when the range of the data changes by a lot. Also, the bad values are not always weeded out, so there is often a few $-1e-31$ that throw everything off.

In order to set the default attributes, I filled a structure with a small set of keywords accepted by plot then made a setProperties method to change them. Every time the plot is updated, PLOT now gets called something like

PLOT, x, y, _EXTRA=extra

where "extra" is the structure of properties I want to change.

In for this to work, though, I have to default to the IDL defaults. MAX_VALUE and MIN_VALUE do not have defaults, so I chose +/- !values.f_infinity. Later, I can changed them so that the $-1e-31$'s do not show up.
